

Hafa Adai!

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**Cohen: We respectfully oppose HB 18-195. PAGE 2**  
**Jurors find Borja guilty for pointing gun at ex-convict. PAGE 4**

**Saipan lawmakers block Cohen's casino comments during session**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER



Cohen

Saipan lawmakers didn't allow former U.S. Interior deputy assistant secretary for insular affairs David Cohen, now con-

sultant for Marianas Stars Entertainment Inc., to address a delegation session about casino-related issues during a public comment period of yesterday morning's session.

» **Best Sunshine: Very late in the game for 2 casino licenses**

Delegation chairman Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan) said he was hoping

that members would give Cohen "some latitude" and a chance to be heard even on a topic that is not on the session agenda but proves to be relevant and timely, even as lawmakers have been "suspending rules" during sessions and accepting

See LAWMAKERS on Page 4

**IN EXCHANGE FOR PAGAN MINING PERMIT**

**JG Sablan, CNMI govt settle for \$4.8M**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

**B**usinessman John T. Sablan of JG Sablan Rock Quarry Inc. has reached a \$4.8-million settlement agreement with the CNMI government in connection with the company's legal battle against the Department of Public Lands that began in 2006 when DPL terminated JG Sablan's mining permit.

At a settlement hearing yesterday before U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather L. Kennedy, attorney Michael Dotts, counsel for Sablan, stated that the parties have settled multiple litigations with two primary aspects.

Dotts said Sablan has agreed to pay \$4,806,867.12 to the CNMI government and the later will issue a mining permit for Pagan Island.

With regard to the \$4.8 million, it will not accrue interest. However, if there is a material default in the repayment, whatever amount remains outstanding will be subject to a penalty of a 100 percent.

With respect to the mining permit, the length of such permit will be for 20 years, with a \$100,000 permit fee payable in 120 days from its execution.

Afterwards, there will be royalty fees essentially either the greater of \$100,000 or 8 percent of the gross per year.

After the \$4.8 million has been paid, the royalty rate will drop from 8 percent to 3 percent.

The first payment of the royalty will be due on the first anniversary after all

See JG SABLON on Page 4

**Castle-shaped hotel near airport sold for \$820,000**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE  
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REPORTER

The long-abandoned castle-shaped hotel across the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport was sold

for \$820,000 during a public auction yesterday.

Tim Goodwin, of Pacific Rim International, a company that handled the auction, told *Saipan Tribune* that there

See HOTEL on Page 4



**ALL SET FOR THE PARADE**

Nicole Obnimaga, 8, checks out American-flag inspired items while tagging along with her mother at National Office Supply along Beach Road in Garapan yesterday. This time of the year, retail stores are seeing brisk sales of miniature American flags and related merchandises in preparation for the Fourth of July parade, which draws hundreds of residents and tourists.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

**Soft opening for Saipan's first electronic gaming**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

Saipan's first electronic gaming facility, Club C, held its soft opening last night at Kanoa Resort in Chalan Kanoa, six months after the e-gaming

law's signing and way ahead of any integrated casino resort planned to be built on island.

Portions of fees collected from Saipan's electronic gaming facilities will be used to help restore retirees' deferred

**Club C at Kanoa  
Resort sets July  
18 grand opening**

25 percent pension and to Saipan, Tinian, and Rota programs, among other things.

"For now, we are

open our doors," Strategic Gaming Solutions Inc. director Juan "Pan" Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday. Strategic Gaming Solutions owns Club C.

Guerrero said Club C's grand opening is set for July 18. The initial investments, he said, is around \$4 million.

"We have paid the fees required. The government should be happy with the

See GAMING on Page 4

# Local

## Cohen: We respectfully oppose HB 18-195

By JAYSON CAMACHO  
jayson.camacho@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

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David B. Cohen, a former deputy assistant secretary for Office of Insular Affairs under the U.S. Department of the Interior and now consultant for Marianas Star Entertainment, told the Rotary Club of Saipan during its weekly meeting yesterday at Hyatt Regency Saipan that they are opposed to House Bill 18-195.

The bill, authored by House floor leader Ralph Demapan

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### »Marianas Stars presses for 2 casino licenses as solution

(Cov-Saipan), seeks to clear further ambiguities in the casino law.

Cohen said the solution in restoring the public's confidence in the process of picking a winner of the minimum \$2-billion integrated casino resort is to not just "award one license, [but] award two."

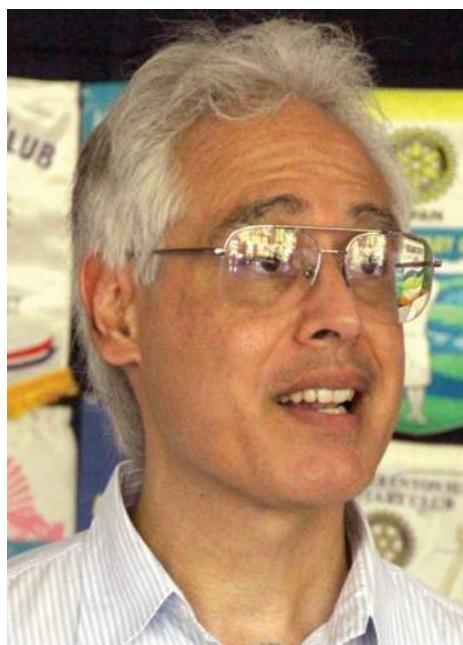
Cohen said that the reason they oppose HB 18-195 is that they object the "tactic of repealing and reenacting the Saipan casino law rather than simply

amending it."

"There is only one conceivable reason to use this tactic, to kill the anti-casino referenda, the referenda specifically targets Public Laws 18-38 and 18-43 for repeal," Cohen said.

"If HB 18-195 were enacted, the referenda would be rendered moot because PL 18-38 and 18-43 would already be repealed," he added.

Cohen told Rotary members that public laws would be replaced with an "almost identical



Cohen

amending it."

"That new number would protect the casino law from the referenda, but it would not address the concerns of the thousands of voters who have signed petitions against this casino law, those voters are petitioning their government to change the policy, not the bill number," Cohen said.

Cohen also told the Rotary that they disagree with HB 18-195's attempt to close the door on judicial review.

The reason for the disagreement of closing those "doors" is that it would create suspicion that casino supporters are trying to shield "a flawed process" from accountability.

Another reason is that if casino were to come into action on Saipan, the community would need an "effective and independent watchdogs" to protect the community's interests.

"It would be dangerous and unwise to shut out the judiciary, which is one of the most important watchdogs for the people," Cohen said.

According to Cohen, there was supposed to be an independent casino commission in place with the governor and the mayors of Rota and Tinian all appointing members with all three legislative delegations involved in confirming the members.

"The selection process was designed to be broadly inclusive, involving both the CNMI government and the municipal governments, both the Executive and the Legislature," Cohen said.

Cohen also said the casino commission was supposed to determine the criteria for awarding the casino license.

"Instead of being driven by the independent casino commission, the process has been implemented by the Executive branch only: The authority to establish selection criteria has been usurped by the governor and lieutenant governor and other important authorities for

the casino commission have been usurped by the Lottery Commission," Cohen said.

Cohen also said that the process "as actually implemented" lacks independence, formality, deliberation, broad participation, public input, transparency, and checks and balances that the Legislature properly intended.

He expressed the fact that the process has been "improperly transformed" and is completely controlled by one branch of the government and that HB 18-195 would approve that trans-

formation.

"Why would this Legislature want to shut itself out of a process that will have such an impact on the future of the CNMI?" Cohen said.

Cohen also said that the powers of the Lottery Commission should be transferred to the independent casino commission.

He noted that the selection of the licensees should not be under the executive branch because they lack independence and minimum qualification standards.

Cohen's reasons for a two casino license is that CNMI will get a total of \$30 million per year from both rather than just \$15 million from one.

"Each applicant will get half a loaf, but the CNMI will get twice the revenue for the retirees, for health care, for schools, for infrastructure, for everyone," Cohen said.

Cohen noted the fact that in Macau, the economy soared when it introduced competition into its casino industry, and its gaming revenues surpassed those of the Las Vegas strip quickly.

"Competition also lowers the risk that the CNMI will be dominated by one big corporate behemoth that will inevitably become more powerful than the government," Cohen said.

"Most importantly, a non-monopoly assures the integrity of the process, removing any suspicion that legislation was rushed, or designed, for any one bidder," he added.

Cohen said that the rushing of the casino law is likely to get wrong, and is putting the very future of the CNMI at risk.

"Is it worth exposing future generations to that risk, just so we can speed up the retirement increases by a couple of months? I doubt that most retirees would want us to risk the future of their grandchildren by making monumental decisions in haste," Cohen said.

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## BEST SUNSHINE'S COMMITMENT TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CNMI

In its response to the Request for Proposal for Casino Resort Developer License, Best Sunshine introduced its plans to create a Community Chest with an initial contribution of

**US\$10,000,000 CASH**

to be distributed to locally-born adults in the CNMI in the form of CUC cash vouchers within 60 days of Best Sunshine being awarded the exclusive license

Based on survey results and discussions with stakeholders in the community, Best Sunshine will commit the following additional funds to the Community Chest

**US\$20,000,000 CASH**

to be distributed within 60 days of Best Sunshine commencing construction works on its first hotel in the proposed Integrated Resort

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Best Sunshine's firm commitment to the CNMI as part of the community outreach program, which will not only benefit organizations such as the hospital, churches, schools, training institutes, Transit Authority, medical referral program and Retirement Fund, but will also create numerous jobs for the local population

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**US\$15,000,000**

Aside from the Community Chest contribution, Best Sunshine will also pay the license fee for Year 6 of operations in advance.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this advertisement was presented to the Government as part of Best Sunshine's submission to the Request for Proposal for Casino Resort Developer License. All payments into the Community Chest and made from the Community Chest will be in compliance with federal and CNMI laws and subject to approval by the Government and acceptance by the people of the CNMI. The recipients who will benefit from the Community Chest will be a decision made by the principal officers of Best Sunshine and Best Sunshine will not be legally liable in any way for any special, direct, indirect or consequential loss or damage or for any taxes arising from the decision; furthermore, the decision might vary in the event of any legal disputes. If any part of this disclaimer is determined by any court or other competent authority to be unlawful and/or unenforceable, the other sections of this disclaimer continue in effect.

## Jurors find Borja guilty for pointing gun at ex-convict

After deliberating for only an hour, a Superior Court jury rendered a unanimous verdict, finding Ji Jing Borja guilty for pointing a gun on the head at an intoxicated ex-convict who asked for cigarettes from him.

Tears rolled down from the cheeks of 25-year-old Borja when a court staff read the verdict of the six jurors finding him guilty of assault with a dangerous weapon.

Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho, who decided on the misdemeanor charge, also found Borja guilty of disturbing the peace.

The maximum penalty for assault with a dangerous weapon is 10 years in prison, while disturbing the peace is six months in jail.

Camacho set the sentencing for July 16, 2014 at 9am.

Camacho denied defense counsel Daniel Guidotti's request for a pre-sentence investigation report. The judge said he knows about Borja.

Camacho directed the court marshal to bring Borja to the

custody of the Department of Corrections.

The judge noted that the defendant is already a convicted person, he made a threat to kill the victim, and that firearm was used in this case.

Before the court marshal took him to DOC, Borja cried as he hugged his wife and their 9-year-old daughter.

Assistant attorney general Chemere McField told reporters that the Commonwealth is pleased with the verdict.

"I think that we had overwhelming evidence and justice was served. We believe in the jury trial system and we're glad that the jury reached the right verdict today," McField said.

Guidotti, counsel for Borja, said obviously they're disappointed with the verdict.

"We intend to pursue an appeal," Guidotti said.

The trial began on Monday.

The six jurors started deliberating yesterday afternoon.

The prosecution rested after

calling a total of seven witness-

es. The defense also rested after calling two witnesses.

In the government's closing arguments, McField said all witnesses' testimonies corroborated about Borja pointing a gun at Jerry J. Sammy in the evening of Jan. 4, 2012, in western Garapan.

"This is not a make-believe story," McField said.

McField said the people involved are not known cartoon characters and that the gun is real.

"This isn't a show," she said.

The prosecutor said saying "FU" is not a crime.

McField said after Sammy asked for cigarettes from Borja, the latter left and proceeded to a car where he took the gun.

McField said nobody followed Borja and that there was no threat on the defendant.

The prosecutor said in pointing a gun at Sammy, Borja was trying to prove a point.

She said the gun was intended to incite fear.

In the defense's closing arguments, Guidotti showed on the projector a photo of a blue

marlin with a caption "The Big Fish Story."

Guidotti said in his opening statements on Monday, he told the jurors that the government will tell about a big fish story.

"I'm telling you now, there's no fish in the bottom of the boat," Guidotti said.

He said the government offered to the jurors a big marlin story, but actually they presented a parrotfish.

"The government offered you a blue marlin but all they got is a parrotfish," he said.

Guidotti questioned why the government did not call a person and several other people who witnessed the incident.

"Jerry (Sammy) the alleged victim lied to you under oath," said Guidotti, citing some inconsistencies of testimony and statements of the 22-year-old Sammy.

The defense counsel said Sammy's story was changing every 30 seconds.

In his cross-examination, Guidotti asked Sammy if he said bad words against Borja, when the latter refused to give him cigarettes. Sammy replied

he could not remember.

It was a security guard who reportedly recovered from Borja a Ruger P89 9mm handgun shortly after the gun-toting incident.

Last September, a Superior Court jury acquitted Borja and taxi driver Hai Tai Lin of all

charges pertaining to allegations that they beat up and threatened to kill a teen passenger.

Camacho, who decided on the misdemeanor charges, found Borja and Lin not guilty of the charges of assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and criminal contempt. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

## Underground storage tank training, certification

The Federal Energy Policy Act enacted by Congress in 2005 mandated training for all underground storage tank system operators. There are two types of operators who must receive training: a Primary Operator (Class A/B) and an Emergency Response Operator (Class C).

It is the responsibility of underground storage tank owners to designate a Primary Operator for each facility. The person designated as the Primary Operator should be an individual who is responsible for the day-to-day aspects of operating, maintaining, and recordkeeping, and has a general knowledge of the underground storage tank compliance requirements. Underground storage tank operators are required to obtain certification.

The certification training shall be held on Tuesday, July 29, 2014. Registration is required by July 1, with the cost \$150 per person in advance, \$200 at the door. To register, call: 866-301-8265 (US

Pacific Time); email [info@UST-training.com](mailto:info@UST-training.com); or visit the website at [www.USTtraining.com](http://www.USTtraining.com).

The one-day training agenda shall include, but is not limited to, the following: UST Operator Certification overview, Basic UST Technology, Release Detection, Release Response, Spill Containment, Overfill Prevention, Corrosion Protection, and Required Paperwork relating to the Operation and Maintenance of USTs.

There is also an online training course available for Class A, Class B and Class C, for the Emergency Response operators.

After completing the one-day training, each participant can obtain his/her certification by passing a 20-question exam with a score of 80 percent or better. This certification shall be good for two years, unless the facility is not in compliance.

For more information about the in-person training on July 29, call the DEQ at 664-8500 or send an email to [jacoblizama@deq.gov.mp](mailto:jacoblizama@deq.gov.mp). (*DEQ*)

## HOTEL

*From Page 1*

Building, a seven-story building with a rooftop pool and 70 rooms.

Last May, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman issued a judgment in favor of attorney Michael Dotts' client, Dae Dong Corp., against the same defendants in the total amount of \$93,500.

Wiseman said Dae Dong Corp. and defendants entered into a contract on April 1, 2007, to coordinate maintenance of the Hotel Palace Building project.

In September 2011, the property was assigned to Philip S. Berg Co. Ltd., a related company to the other defendants. The defendants, however, failed to pay Dae Dong Corp.

Dotts told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that the \$820,000 winning bid is sufficient to take care of the judgments.

"So my client is happy. Now we can all hope that the hotel will finally be finished," Dotts said.

In March 2013, PDI Capital Group Korea held a ground-breaking ceremony for the completion of the hotel.

## JG SABLAM

*From Page 1*

with each party to bear their own attorneys fees and costs. The federal court will retain jurisdiction of the case to enforce the settlement agreement.

Kennedy ordered the parties to submit stipulation to dismiss the case and final settlement agreement no later than July 3, 2014.

Assistant attorneys general Peter Prestley and Gilbert Birnich appeared at the hearing for the government.

## GAMING

*From Page 1*

additional revenues; the retirees should be happy, too, because portions of the fees will go toward their pension payment," Guerrero added.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos' proposed \$134-million budget already includes \$2.5 million in projected revenue from electronic gaming fees.

Besides Club C at Kanoa Resort, another electronic gaming facility on Saipan will also open at Mariana Resort &

Spa in Marpi.

Electronic gaming machines are allowed only in hotels on Saipan with at least 100 rooms or, if they have fewer than 100 rooms, should be attached to a golf course.

The electronic-gaming measure was one of the major revenue-generating bills that passed the Legislature the past year; the others include video lottery and casino gaming on Saipan.

Club C opened Tuesday night with 64 machines available for use, of the total 112 machines already paid for, Guerrero said.

"Within the next few days, all

the machines will be in use... We have some 35 employees, most of them U.S. workers including retirees who have to go back to work to make up for the lost 25 percent pension," he added.

Club C, he said, is initially open from 6pm to 2am.

Under the electronic gaming law, 60 percent of the fees collected each year will be used to restore the 25-percent cut in retirees' pension; 15 percent to pay the interest owed to defined benefit plan members who ended their membership; 15 percent to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation

for the senatorial district's programs; 5 percent for Rota; and 5 percent for Tinian.

Besides electronic gaming on Saipan, the CNMI has also legalized video lottery gaming operations on Saipan to help generate additional revenue for the government, but the latter has been put in the back burner. While casino is now also allowed on Saipan, a bumpy application process, the regulatory framework, lawsuits, pending amendments to the casino law, and other issues have snagged the award of an exclusive license.

which has not been in place yet, will be given the power to issue a casino license and not the Lottery Commission.

Marianas Stars is also calling for the granting of two licenses instead of one, and the reinstatement of judicial review. It also wants the casino referendum process to go on, "if that's what the people want," said King.

When asked about the procedural matters raised by the Saipan delegation, King had this to say: "With things being rushed through the way they are, you have to look for every possible angle to make your case and even though this is Saipan delegation, the fact is, every member in there will be asked to vote on the casino at one time. And the chairman asked for latitude; they weren't willing to give them. That's the procedure, we respect that. We'll just find another way to make our case to the public in another way."

Lottery Commission consultants continue to investigate and review the two casino applicants. The \$30 million deposit by the winning applicant will be used to restore retirees' deferred 25 percent pension, among other things.

With regard to the litigation, all actions in the Superior Court will be dismissed with prejudice, each side to bear their own attorney's fees and costs.

With respect to the case pending in federal court, the case will be dismissed with prejudice

## LAWMAKERS

*From Page 1*

presentations from all sorts of investors.

Marianas Stars is one of the two investors vying for a license to exclusively develop a minimum \$2-billion casino resort on Saipan. The other one is Best Sunshine International Ltd.

Meanwhile, Terence Tay, chief operating officer of Best Sunshine, said yesterday that Marianas Stars' suggestion to the CNMI of awarding two Saipan casino license instead of only one comes at a "very late stage" of the process.

"It's too late to change the rules now. They should have raised that in the beginning... A \$2-billion investment requires immense planning. A few months back, they were opposed to casino on Saipan. Now they want two casinos on Saipan. What's the level of their sincerity?" Tay said.

On Capital Hill, Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan) and other members of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation said the rules do not allow members of the public to comment on issues or bills that

are not on that session's agenda. Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan), the delegation's floor leader, echoed Sablan's statement.

Sean King of Park Strategies and consultant for Marianas Stars said it's "unfortunate" that Cohen wasn't able to be heard but he said Marianas Stars respects the delegation's procedures.

Cohen planned to comment on House Bill 18-195, which seeks to repeal and reenact the Saipan casino law. Copies of Cohen's four-page testimony, however, were distributed to Saipan lawmakers instead.

But while Cohen was not able to address the Saipan delegation session, he was able to present before the Rotary Club of Saipan. Best Sunshine's Tay was also at the Rotary Club as a member's guest, but was not the scheduled guest speaker unlike Cohen.

Cohen was U.S. Interior deputy assistant secretary for insular affairs from 2002 to 2008. Tebuteb noted that Cohen, during his stint at the Interior, was able to convince the Bush White House and Congress to give the CNMI a chance to vote for a nonvoting delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives simi-

lar to other U.S. territories.

"During those hearings, Cohen read the names of Chamorro, Carolinian, and other soldiers from the CNMI that died in Afghanistan and Iraq so the people there can elect their leaders to represent them, but these soldiers didn't even have their own voice in U.S. Congress," Tebuteb said, adding that it was Cohen, along with former lieutenant governor Diego Benavente, that worked to remove matching fund requirements for the CNMI on capital improvement project funds.

Tebuteb, in his personal view, said "perhaps" by giving Cohen a chance to address the delegation and answer their questions, members could have asked Marianas Stars to "withdraw" their court-ordered temporary restraining order on any Saipan casino license approval or rejection.

In an interview with reporters, King said Cohen wanted to make a statement about what Marianas Stars thinks about HB 18-195.

"We feel that HB 18-195 is so flawed, and so broken, that it should be scrapped and a new bill should be introduced," he said. Marianas Stars also hopes that the Casino Commission,

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**BEST SUNSHINE**  
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# Denial for proposed late charge hike endorsed

Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission hearing examiner Harry M. Boertzel recommended the denial of the proposed

increase in late charge assessed by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to its customers.

In its June 13 report to the

commission, Boertzel specifically endorsed that CUC be directed to continue implementing the current electric service

late charge of 1 percent of the past due and the said amount be extended to both wastewater and water services.

CUC has petitioned the commission to allow the electric service late charge to increase from 1 percent of past due to 10 percent of past due—an amount described by the hearing examiner as unreasonable and should be denied.

"The proposed increase in the electric service late charge from 1 percent to 10 percent is unreasonable and should be denied. The existing 1 percent late charge should extend to both wastewater and water service," the hearing examiner's report indicated.

In the analysis provided by the hearing examiner, a late charge provision does not appear in service regulations for either the water or wastewater divisions.

"The record is unclear whether CUC has been assessing a late charge for water and wastewater services. It is also unclear

whether the late charge would be assessed on a customer who has entered into an installment agreement with CUC regarding the payment of account arrearages," stated the report.

Boertzel recalled that in a rebuttal from CUC consultant economists.com's Dan Jackson, the consultant recognized that the proposed late charge increase was a deterrent rather than cost-based and served only as a recommendation given CUC's findings that the current charge was not working.

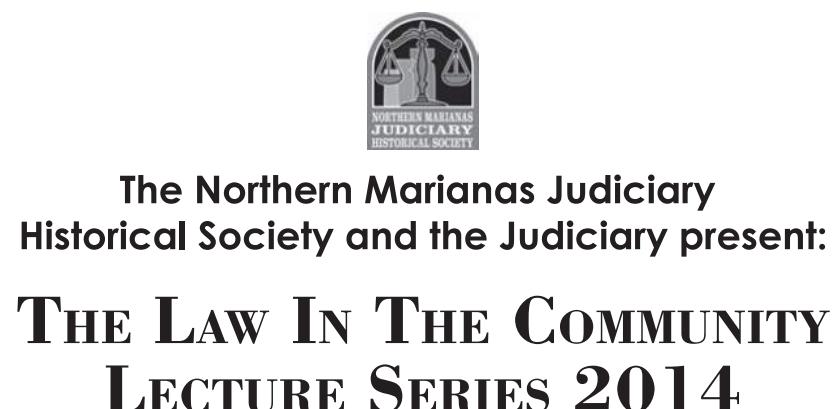
"He (Jackson) recognized that the amount of the charge was a regulatory policy call. CGC found the proposed 1,000-percent fee increase to be unconscionable given current economic conditions and that it was also inconsistent with the 'just and reasonable' standard," the report further indicated.

Boertzel also recommended the deferral of some non-revenue rate fees petitioned by CUC. These include a proposed new renewable energy fees for installation and annual inspection pend-

ing a legal review of whether they are consistent with the requirement of Public Law 15-87.

Other items for deferral are the CUC's request to increase the new single-phase service connection fee from \$135 to \$450 and to establish new fees for the three-phase new service connection and for after-hour new single-phase service connection. He recommended that a study be conducted first to address the concerns raised on these proposals as presented by the CPUC consultant in its testimony filed on May 17, 2014.

Meantime, the hearing examiner expressed support to three other non-revenue rate fees as endorsed by CUC. These included the proposed new \$550 unauthorized electric service reconnection fee; the proposed new \$200 reconnection at the pole fee; and the proposed increase in the investigation fee from \$60 to \$210, which he described as "necessary, just, and reasonable," but is subject to terms and conditions. (Moneth G. Deposa)



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For more information, contact the Northern Mariana Islands Judiciary Historical Society at 236-9805.

## CUC waives DPL's late payment fees

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. waived a significant portion of late payment fees for the Department of Public Lands after the latter showed good faith effort in fulfilling its decade-old debts.

Last week, CUC officials headed by its board chair David J. Sablan, formally received from DPL Secretary Pedro Tenorio a check of \$327,429 as full payment of what the agency owed for many years.

CUC executive director Alan W. Fletcher yesterday said that the lump-sum payment of long-time utility arrears was not as-

sessed any late charge fees after the CUC board waived the late payment fees associated with DPL debts.

"In recognition of payment in full of the principle amount, the CUC board took formal action to waive late payment fees," said Fletcher.

CUC chief financial officer Charles Warren yesterday estimated the waived late payment charge to DPL at between \$120,000 and \$130,000.

Fletcher also disclosed that the monies received from DPL will be returned to CUC's reserve fund to fund critical pow-

er plant projects. As discussed at the last meeting, CUC has had to dip into this fund in order to pay for ongoing operations, resulting in deferred maintenance and capital projects.

During the check presentation, Sablan thanked Tenorio for his leadership in resolving the decade-old dispute and for the payment.

"Secretary Tenorio's and DPL's payment of its utility bill obligations should be a model for all government agencies that owe CUC money. CUC recognizes the time and effort of Secretary Tenorio and stands ready to work with other government agencies in paying their debts," noted Sablan.

Fletcher also thanked DPL for their payment and reemphasized that the board and staff look forward to working with all government agencies in resolving past payment issues.

"The importance of timely utility payments cannot be understated, they are simply essential to ensure reliable power, water, and wastewater services," added the executive director.

DPL's check payment covers the period from August 2005 through September 2012. Its power arrears amounted to \$322,961.65 while for water, \$4,467.82.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that in the days of the Marianas Public Lands Authority, an "Agreement for Designation of Use of Public Domain Lands" was entered into by CUC and MPLA, which involved the conveyance of a parcel of public land for CUC's use.

According to Tenorio, in return for this conveyance, CUC agreed to essentially waive all utility charges to DPL. A subsequent legal memorandum disputed this arrangement, describing it as inappropriate. (Moneth G. Deposa)

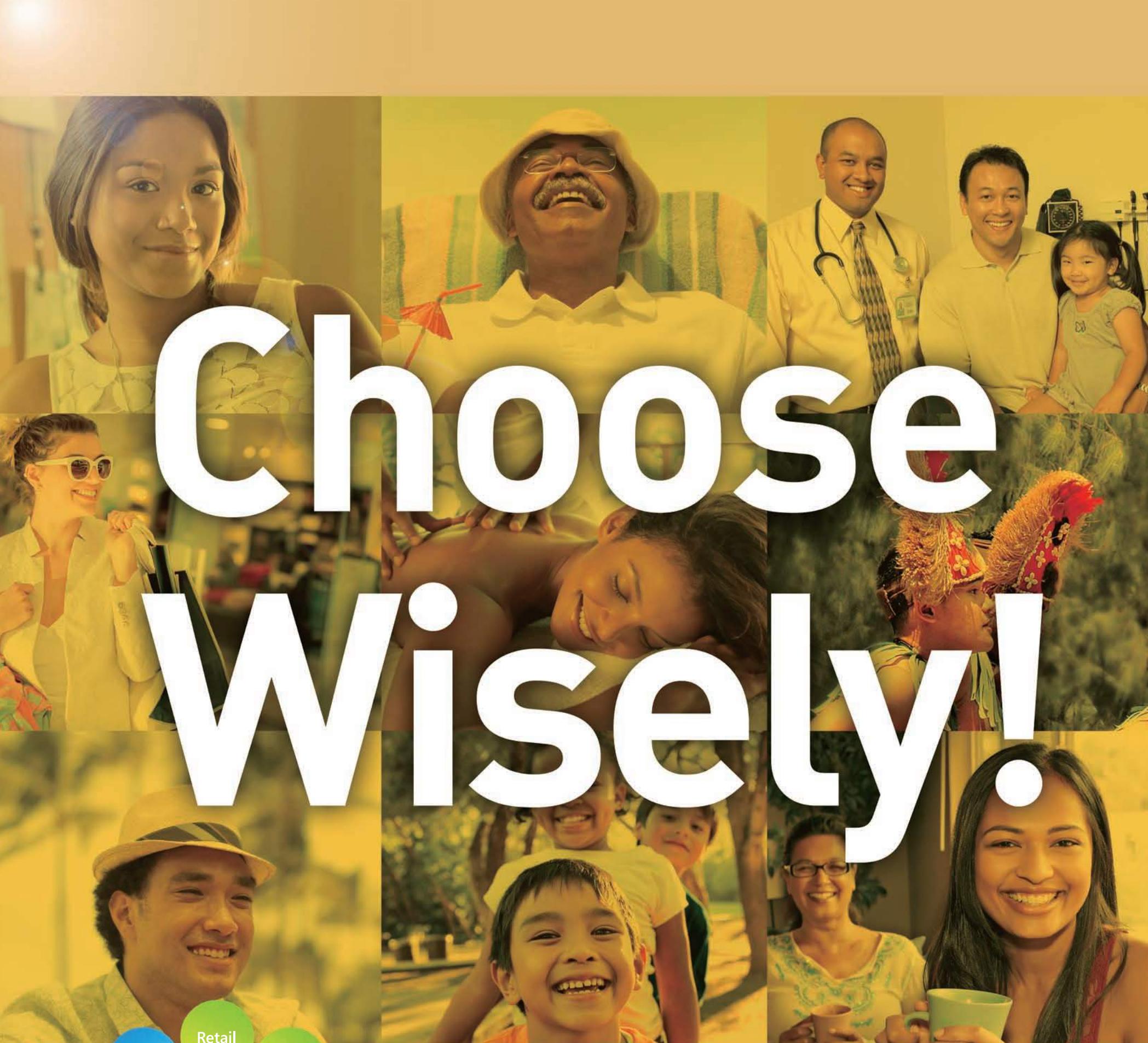
ART in the Park

Saturday, June 28, 2014  
CNMI Museum Ground  
9:00a.m. - 5:00p.m.

Arts and Crafts, Contemporary Arts  
will be displayed and or be for sale.

Sponsored by:  
Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture  
In partnership with CNMI Museum

Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture  
NORTHERN MARIANAS MUSEUM OF HISTORY & CULTURE



# choose wisely!



Our Best Sunshine team must strike the right balance between Saipan's economic recovery and the continuation of the people's wonderful island lifestyle. During the last few weeks, we have been showing you our ongoing commitments. We are confident, that Best Sunshine's Integrated Resort brings immeasurable benefits to the local community for decades to come. We thank you sincerely for your vote of confidence!

[www.bestsunshineint.com](http://www.bestsunshineint.com)

*Empowering Saipan*

**BEST SUNSHINE**  
International

## USDA to host workshop for farmers today

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is hosting a workshop for farmers at the Kagman Community Center today, June 25. All farmers are encouraged to attend the workshop that will start at 6:30pm.

The workshops theme is "What's good for the farmer is good for everyone" and will focus on how to explore

## Guam may make native plant its national flower

**HAGATNA, Guam** (AP)—Guam may ditch the colorful blossoms of an invasive plant and instead adopt the white petals of a native shrub as its national flower.

Speaker Judith Won Pat introduced a bill that would make the torchwood plant known as *gaosali* the U.S. territory's official flower, the *Pacific Daily News* reported.

*Gaosali* has a white flower with stems that can be used as candles. Its wood may be used to make torches.

Guam's national flower is currently the bougainvillea, which grows bright red and purple flowers. The South American plant has no unique connection to Guam or the Mariana Islands, Won Pat said.

"As one of few native plants that still thrive on Guam, it is

grants, financing, risk management, and technical assistance programs as well as opportunities to leverage resources and build partnerships.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) said that farming has been gaining momentum in the CNMI in the past few years, as evidenced by the increasing number of representatives that

USDA's Food and Nutrition Service sends to talk about the workshop's goals.

"Your congressional office has encouraged this outreach by working with the Guam and Hawaii regional offices of FNS. This month's visit is especially well timed, coinciding with the opening of the Garapan Public Market, where fishermen and

farmers will be able to sell their products," Sablan said.

Sablan said the public market was paid for in part with a \$200,000 congressional earmark he obtained for the CNMI in fiscal year 2010.

The public market was through a collaborative leadership effort, which dates back to the February 2009 Agriculture Summit held at the Saipan World Resort. It will soon bear fruit with the opening of the first Garapan Public Market located at the Garapan Fishing Base. The public market offers a modern facility located along the Beach Road waterfront that will provide farmers and other local producers an important outlet to market their fresh produce, fresh catch, locally made value-added agricultural products and other local fresh products where buyers and other consumers will find local and fresh off-the-land produce and products and fresh off-the-water catch and marine products at a centrally located market.

*(Jayson Camacho)*

### COMMUNITY BRIEFS

#### SHEFA application deadline

Application deadline for new SHEFA applicants is July 1. Deadline to submit supporting documents for everyone is Sept. 30. Ongoing applicants must submit a new application and MOA if there are any changes in academic status or contact information. Applications can be downloaded from our website at <http://www.saipanshefa.net/>. For more information, contact us at 233-5995. Fax no. is 233-5995 and email is contact@saipanshefa.net. *(SHEFA)*

#### Questions about your VA benefits?

All veterans, family members, widows, and community providers are being informed that

the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is having a Veterans Benefit Clinics on Tinian on July 1, 2014, and on Saipan on July 2, 2014.

On Tinian, the clinic will be held at the Tinian Mayor's conference room on July 1, 2014, from 9:30am to 2:30pm. On Saipan, it will be held at the Saipan VA Outreach Clinic located at the Marine Heights Business Park, MHII Building, Suite 206 (second floor), on July 2, 2014, from 8am to 4pm.

Topics will include VA benefits, loan guaranty, education, vocational rehabilitation and employment, and death benefits. For more information, contact Saipan VA Clinic coordinator Ruth Coleman at 322-0035 or 989-8999. *(PR)*

## Flashback

### A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

**June 25, 2006**

#### Now is best time for CNMI businesses'

Local businesses are all keyed up these days due the influx of thousands of tourists brought about by the 6th Micronesian Games, U.S. Naval visits due to an ongoing military exercise in Guam and the July 4 event. Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Charles V. Cepeda said that USS *Frank Cable* alone brought in some 1,400 people when it docked on Saipan Friday. USS *Frank Cable* visitors consist of the ship's officers, crew, and family members "who are visiting the island to shop and enjoy the amenities." The ship, which celebrated her 10th year in Guam on April 11 this year, serves as the U.S. Seventh Fleet's mobile repair and support platform.

#### Seaports spend high for insurance, contracts

The Commonwealth Ports Authority's Seaport Division posted large expenses for insurance, personnel, and contractual services during the first seven months of fiscal year 2006. The seaport's \$660,000 expenditure for insurance is actually larger than its spending for personnel's salaries and wages, amounting to \$377,464, plus benefits of \$97,605. Contractual services, meantime, totaled \$109,297 from October 2005 to April 30, 2006.

**June 25, 2007**

#### Air China seeks fed OK on Beijing flights

China's flagship carrier is seeking approval to operate scheduled flights connecting Beijing and Saipan. Air China filed its application with the U.S. Department of Transportation on May 31, 2007. According to the application, Air China plans to operate two nonstop flights a week between Saipan and Beijing, beginning July 15, 2007. The airline is requesting authority to serve the route for at least one year. If awarded the frequency, Air China will operate the initial service with Boeing 777-200 aircraft, which has passenger seating for 305 or up to 440.

#### DLNR eyes flat rate for irrigation water

The Department of Lands and Natural Resources proposes to impose a flat rate for irrigation water used for the Kagman commercial farm lots. Under DLNR's proposed regulation, farmers who get water supply from the Kagman watershed project's irrigation system will be charged \$10 a month. This is a reduction from the current water rates, which are based on a situation where there is enough irrigation water from the Kagman watershed. The existing rate is at 25 cents for every 1,000 gallons per lot. If farmers use a fair share of the water available, each will pay \$25 a month. Additional rates are charged for extra consumption.

**June 25, 2008**

#### NMI loses chance to recover misused \$50K

The cash-strapped Commonwealth government has missed its chance to recover at least \$50,000 of misused public funds, a report by the Office of the Public Auditor revealed. OPA, in an update on the status of its audit recommendations to various agencies, said the government now has no hope of collecting from individuals involved in five corruption cases. The cases had been referred to the Attorney General's Office for legal action to recover the funds. But the AGO recently told OPA that the statute of limitation—or the time period within which the government could bring a lawsuit against the involved parties—had already expired.

#### Local Dems want 'new blood' to revive party

The Northern Marianas Democratic Party wants more young people in its ranks. The local Democrats on Monday evening decided to put off electing new officers for a later time after they agreed that "new blood" is needed to revive the party, according to Manuel Sablan, president of the local Democrats. Sablan, a lawmaker from 1988 to 1992, said most of the people who showed up for the meeting are old-time politicians. He said the party wants more members under 50 in the leadership. "If you take a look at the voter registration, most of the voters are in that age group. We need to focus on them if we want to win elections," said Sablan. Currently, the Democratic Party holds only two seats—Sen. Maria T. Pangelinan and Rep. Justo S. Quitugua—in the Legislature. Sen. Luis Crisostimo, who had won his first term under the Democratic Party banner, was re-elected in 2007 as an independent candidate.

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID  
ITB NO.: ITB14-DCCA/NAP-122**

**SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: JULY 18, 2014  
TIME: 10:00 A.M.**

**"FY 2015 REDEMPTION AGENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CULTURAL AFFAIRS, NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM"**

**COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.**

**THE COMMONWEALTH RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS; IN WHOLE OR IN PART, AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A BID IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.**

**/S/ LAURA T. OGUMORO  
SECRETARY OF DCCA**

**/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAM  
DIRECTOR, P&S**

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID  
2014-CDA-08-ITB**

**Submission & Opening Date: July 2, 2014  
Time: 10:00 a.m.**

**"SUPPLY OF LAPTOPS FOR CDA"**

**Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority Office, 2nd Floor in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours.**

**The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.**

**/S/ MANUEL A. SABLAM  
Executive Director**

**/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAM  
Director P&S**

**Commonwealth Utilities Corporation**  
3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building  
P.O. Box 501220 CK • Saipan, MP 96950-1220  
Telephone: (670) 664-4282 • Facsimile: (670) 235-5131

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

Pursuant to the Open Government Act (1 CMC §9901 *et seq.*), the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation ("CUC") Board of Directors hereby informs the general public that the Board will hold a regular meeting beginning on **Monday, June 30, 2014, at 9:00 a.m.** which will go into recess at some point during the meeting and re-convene on **Tuesday, July 1, 2014, at 9:00 a.m.** at the CUC Conference Room, Room 17, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building to consider the following agenda. Public attendance is welcome.

**AGENDA**

**I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**

- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda
- D. Adoption of the Minutes – June 19, 2014 Meeting
- E. Correspondence

**II. PUBLIC COMMENTS\***

**III. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

**IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION\*\***

**V. CONTRACT REVIEWS**

**VI. BOARD REPORTS**

- A. Status Report - Personnel Committee
- B. Status Report - Customer Service Committee

**VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

\* Public comments are limited to 30 minutes and each remark is limited to three minutes. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.

\*\* Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board of Directors may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL  
MVA-RFP-14-2314**

**For: Architect and Engineering Services for the Marianas Visitors Authority**

**Closing Date: July 11, 2014  
Time: 3:00 P.M.**

**Submit sealed proposals to: Marianas Visitors Authority  
San Jose Professional Building  
P.O. Box 500861  
Saipan, MP 96950**

**Interested parties may pick up the scope of work at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.) Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com).**

**/S/ JAMES NELSON  
Acting Chairman of the Board**

**/S/ PERRY P. TENORIO  
Managing Director**



Marianas Stars  
Entertainment, Inc.

## DO YOU CARE?

**DO YOU CARE WHETHER THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE IS HEARD ON WHETHER CASINO GAMING WILL BE ALLOWED ON SAIPAN?** **MARIANAS STARS** supports the right of the people, either directly or through their elected representatives, to decide the future of their islands. We oppose any efforts to gut the referendum process. In legislative proceedings, we support a thorough, deliberate and transparent process where the people have the opportunity to be heard. We would be honored to be awarded a casino gaming license on Saipan, but only through a fair and transparent process that has the broad support of the people.

**DO YOU CARE WHETHER TINIAN AND ROTA WILL PROSPER ALONG WITH SAIPAN?** If the people choose casino gaming on Saipan, **MARIANAS STARS** has a plan to ensure that the islands will develop together. Our sister company has already invested over \$40 million on Tinian, and has plans to invest over \$600 million more for a 5-star hotel, luxury villas, a golf course, a water park and other projects. If we are fortunate enough to receive a license on Saipan, we would have every incentive to make sure that our projects on both islands prosper. Part of our plan would be to improve transportation links between the islands—not only to transport guests back and forth between Saipan and Tinian, but to provide much improved connections to Rota and Guam as well.

**DO YOU CARE WHETHER THE CNMI GETS THE MONEY IT NEEDS TO HELP RETIREES, STUDENTS, WORKERS AND EVERYONE ELSE?** If the people choose casino gaming on Saipan, **MARIANAS STARS** respectfully requests that the following proposal be considered: Don't just award one license, award two—assuming each applicant meets the qualifications. Take the current plan for one 2,000-room mega-resort and split it into two 1,000-room resorts. But keep the fees the same for each licensee, so that the CNMI gets a total of \$30 million per year from the two licensees rather than just \$15 million from one. Each applicant will get half a loaf, but the CNMI will get twice the revenue for the retirees. For health care. For schools. For infrastructure. For everyone. Healthy competition will create greater prosperity and greater accountability. More importantly, a non-monopoly assures the integrity of the process, removing any suspicion that legislation was rushed, or designed, for any one bidder.

**DO YOU CARE? WE CARE. BECAUSE WE'RE ALREADY YOUR NEIGHBORS!**

Si Yu'us Ma'ase. Oloomway. Thank You.

**MARIANAS STARS:**  
THE PEOPLE OF THE  
CNMI DESERVE BETTER!

[www.marianasstars.com](http://www.marianasstars.com)



LEGEND OF THE OCEAN

INTEGRATED THEME PARK & CASINO RESORT, SAIPAN

# Opinion

*Hapa Adai!*

## Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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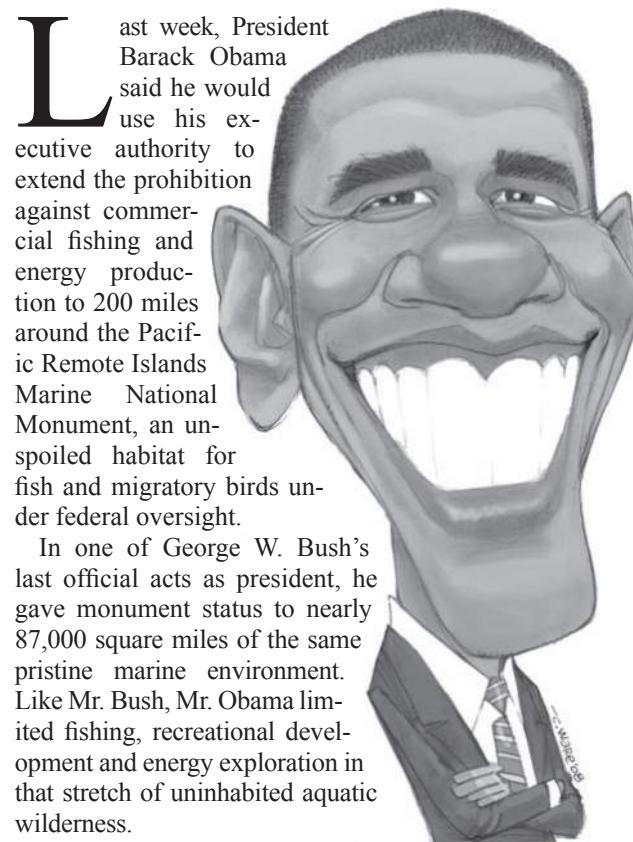
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MEMBER

**AP** The Associated Press      Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## An Obama order offers help to ocean habitats



Last week, President Barack Obama said he would use his executive authority to extend the prohibition against commercial fishing and energy production to 200 miles around the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument, an unspoiled habitat for fish and migratory birds under federal oversight.

In one of George W. Bush's last official acts as president, he gave monument status to nearly 87,000 square miles of the same pristine marine environment. Like Mr. Bush, Mr. Obama limited fishing, recreational development and energy exploration in that stretch of uninhabited aquatic wilderness.

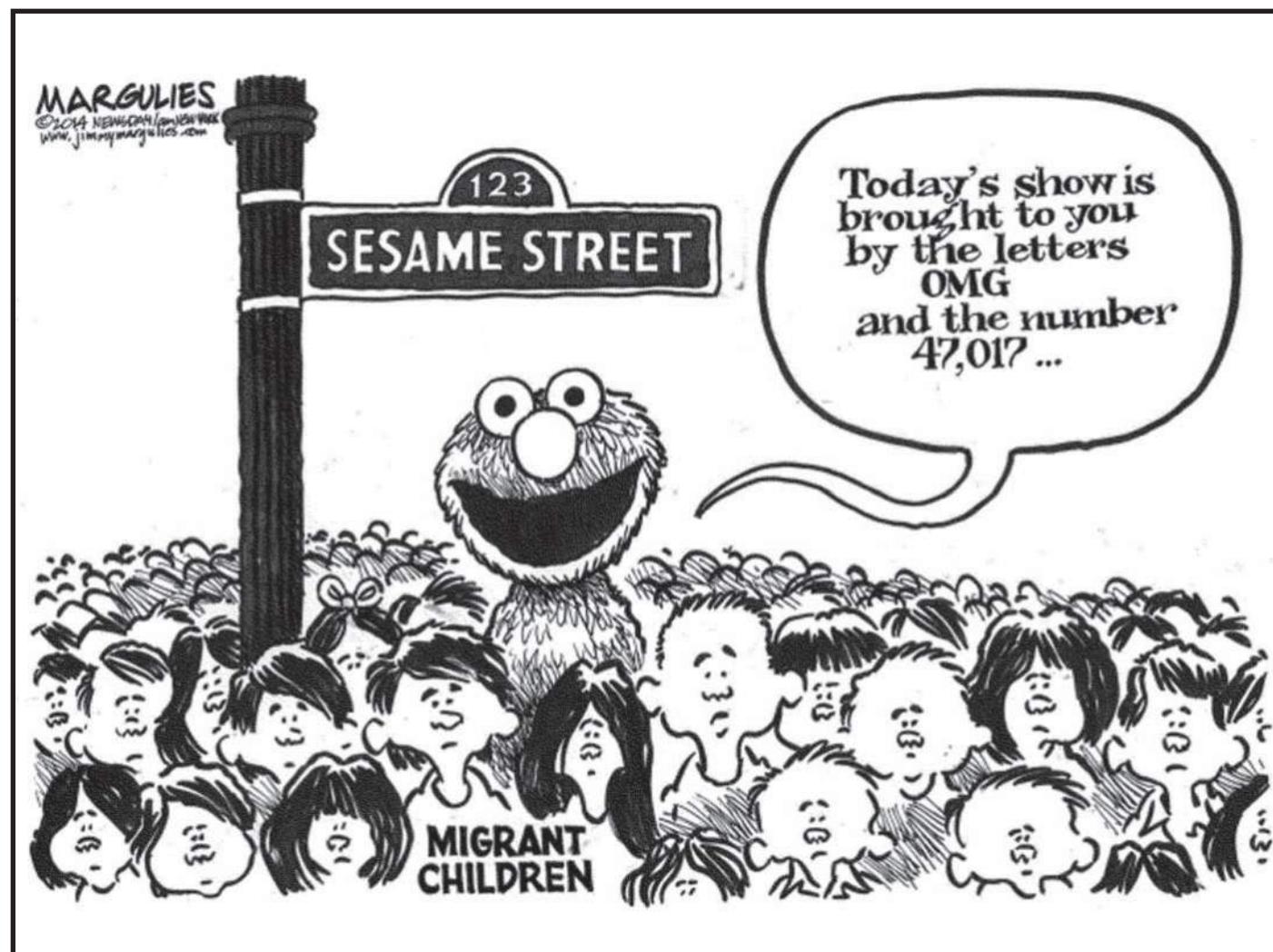
Mr. Obama expanded the area Mr. Bush sought to protect by adding an additional 150 nautical miles to the zone around the marine sanctuary. The two presidents agreed that as one of humanity's greatest treasures, the Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument should be protected from the kind of exploitation that routinely takes place around the world.

Such a major expansion of ocean sanctuary does not sit well with Republican lawmakers. They already resent Mr. Obama's willingness to use his executive authority. The GOP also believes the Obama administration's recognition of the reality of man-made climate change hovers in the background of every environmental decision.

The right of energy companies to extract fossil fuels and natural gas wherever they can be found as well as the fishing industry's desire to fish in protected waters are also private-sector prerogatives that Republicans champion. They believe Mr. Obama over-regulates the environment to the detriment of the American economy.

Mr. Obama understands that he won't get any leeway in the Republican-controlled House, so taking executive action allowed by law is the only way to get important things done regarding the environment.

Mr. Obama's order will go into effect later this year after the public has had a chance to comment. Although the president will be doubling the area of ocean under U.S. protection, it is a drop in the bucket compared to vast expanses where pollution reigns and fish populations are close to collapse.



## East Pacific is Asia-in-America

**W**est of the Rockies past the Great Plains to the Sierra Nevada is open country for the ruggedly solitary individual, or those out to establish a New Canaan like the followers of Joseph Smith and Brigham Young. The Pacific West defaulted on the New England homogeneity, in my estimation. I call the coast, Asia-in-America.

I live in the northeast of China where the old Kogoryo west of the Yalu River is Korea-in-China, Yanbian Autonomous Region, where the signage system in the city of Yangi is maddeningly Hanggul (Korean) and Zhongwen (Chinese) only in my last visit. Traditionally connected to North Korea, it eschews English all together! Not even Russian and Mongolian make the grade as they do in Harbin, Heilongjiang and Manzhouli, Inner Mongolia.

The Pacific West coast of the United States is Asian, thus, the Pacific East designation. To be sure, the Mexican influence is considerable but the native Americans from the Aleuts to the Mayas and all the native Americans in between are definitely Asian. They crossed over through the Bering Straits long time ago, and have shared their DNA even traceable among the Incas of Peru.

The Sinophobia of America that resulted in the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 did not deter the Sino presence in the Pacific coast. From Vancouver to Acapulco, there is no shortage of the *dimsum* appeal and there is an extensive network of tongs and clans that make the Shanghai eggroll, the ubiquitous chow mein and the popular dumpling a common fare in the prolific Sino dining tables.

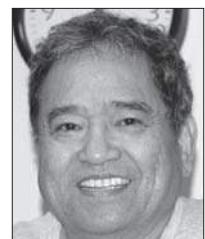
Daly City just northwest of the SFO airport is Asian to the core. Folks of Indian descent drive cabs, those who migrated from Fiji and Malaysia, not to mention the various Philippine dialects spoken in the area, dive for crabs; the Zhonghua of the Hakka that is between Fukien (Fujian) and Cantonese (Guangdong) underneath the common *putunghua* (common language) predominates in the city. SF in all its glory is a metro Asia.

A word about *Asia*. The etymology of the term derives from the Assyrian word for anything east of Europe (Greece and Rome), so it is a negative definition. To have Asia as a contiguous continent would include Europe, save it now refers to the geography east of the Urals down to the Bosphorus, so Turkey straddles Europe and Asia. The Middle East properly belongs with the Arabic nations of North Africa, but we refer to it as Southwest Asia, as the rest of the continent comprises South Asia, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, Far East Asia, and China since Marco Polo.

Asia is thus a creation of the classical European mind more than a helpful category in geography. The seamless continent, in fact, is Afro-Euro-Asia. The Asia portion holds 60 percent of the planet's population, bounded by the Urals, the Caucasus, the Suez,

**By JAIME VERGARA**  
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



the Indian, Arctic and Pacific oceans. Africa, Europe, and Asia were Europe's mental division of three cultural continents until the Americas were discovered and Oceania got created.

The etymology of Asia and Europe might have been determined by their location relative to the sun viewed from Akkadia (present day Turkey). The Akkadian word *asu* and Persian word *asa* referred to the east where the sun *rises* while the Akkadian *erebu* is where the sun *sets* in the west.

It does not matter. Asia is now a definition in progress. In the famous *Asiatiska folk, Nordisk familjebok*, (2nd printing 1904), there were 36 ethnic images. But not only is Asia a cultural-geographical definition still in progress, one's social grid of the planet itself can no longer be contained just by the five categories of Europe, America, Asia, Africa, and Oceania.

For the cartographers and social scientists among our readers, I offer the social grid of three hemispheres (West, East, and South) at three continents each. For the West, I have North America, Europe, and Russia; for the East, Sub-Asia, SinoAsia, and SEAPacifica (Southeast Asia and the Pacific); and for the South, NAME (North Africa and the Middle East), South Africa and South America.

Chicago's Ecumenical Institute in the 60s and its secular arm, the Institute of Cultural Affairs in the 70s, suggested a version of this social grid, three spheres and nine continents, and though boundaries and names might need calibrating, the general divisions still hold in my cognitive overview of planetary geography.

Meanwhile, though the European categories are still universally used, and Asia more perceived for its location relative to Europe rather than the integrity of its landmass, diversity of its ethnics and demographics, we promote the non-European definition of the East Pacific of America's west coast as Asia-in-America.

The Sino-Indo-Malay-Turkic main ethnic groups comprise contemporary Asia. The west coast of North America is predominantly of this constituency, and its culture is a few miles removed from that of New England. So, from San Diego to the traffic lanes of L. A. and the tunnels in the Bay Area to the bikes of Portland, the varied ITs of Seattle, and the Hakkas of Vancouver, I am very much at home. Time to name the reality the way it is.

## Nearby: Japanese casino

**A**s we tango out of step about our impending wealth from casino, a news story from Reuters (printed recently in the *Japan Times*) discusses plans by two U.S. casino giants eyeing either Osaka or Tokyo as the next ripe market for their venture.

Most folks here missed it as to deny our assessing its impact on our "Midnight Hour" casino industry. Aren't we supposed to have the foresight and vision to weigh how this would play against the industry here? We can't brave ignorance on this score.

"Two U.S. billionaires are betting on rival cities, Tokyo and Osaka, to be the first in Japan to open casino resorts—once the government gives the go-ahead to legalize gambling.

"Japan is one of the world's last untapped gaming markets and could become the third largest gambling destination after Macau and the United States, with annual revenue of over \$40 billion, according to broker CLSA.

"Lawmakers who support legalizing casino gambling hope to see initial draft legislation this year, with the first resort opening by 2020, when Tokyo hosts the Olympic Games.

"In a race for first-mover advantage, 76-year-old Chicago real estate mogul Neil Bluhm has set his sights on the southern commercial hub of Osaka, while Las Vegas gaming tycoon Sheldon Adelson, four years his senior, is putting his weight behind a Tokyo flagship resort.

"Bluhm, who owns casinos in Pennsylvania, Chicago and Niagara Falls, has a net worth of \$2.6 billion, according to Forbes. The former lawyer and now head of Rush Gaming believes Osaka, one of Chicago's 'sister cities,' has the kind of flexible local government that will help drive this project, and, crucially, has 'shovel ready' casino sites.

"While Adelson hasn't ruled out pitching for Osaka too, he sees Tokyo as the main prize, given its highly affluent 13.2 million population. The CEO of Las Vegas Sands Corp, who Forbes says is worth close to \$39 billion, has pledged to spend \$10 billion as Japan opens up to legal gambling—an offer he says his rivals can't match.

"Sands, which has casinos in Macau, Singapore and Las Ve-

gas, remain bullish on its Japan plans given the country's wealthy population and proximity to China. "We are very confident in our ability to generate a return that would be satisfactory to our shareholders," George Tanasijevich, managing director for global development, said in a phone interview. He did not elaborate."

Japan is a very wealthy nation with 26 million multi-millionaires, many of whom are retired folks. It generates \$40 billion annually in revenues. It has the infrastructure—wealthy folks—to support its industry. If other wealthy nations work the clock to lure the rest of Asia's wealthy, where would the CNMI casino industry secure its share of the market?

Why are Adelson and Bluhm headed to Japan and not the CNMI? What did they miss of the CNMI that they should know about other than its reputation in Washington as a "welfare state" gift-wrapped in "corruption"? Or what happens to the Saipan casino when wealthy Japan opens up in less than six years? Aren't we preparing an industry to eventually fail?

Why is the focus of casino fees strictly on retirees' pension? What about the larger community and the need to defray the cost of education, health, and public safety? What myopic view, ignoring the majority's needs.

Finally, what if there's a serious geopolitical rift in Southeast Asia between China, Japan, Vietnam, and the Philippines? Remember the Asian financial flu? It instantly took the wind out of our tourism industry. Do you see how easily this industry could be derailed and paralyzed? Vision: Anybody?

### Hangover refuses to leave

Memories last forever, especially sweet ones. We once had millions of dollars. Our coffers were loaded and overflowing as the party goes on 24/7. We were inebriated by the good times of the boom years. We hold onto the darn hangover of the good old times!

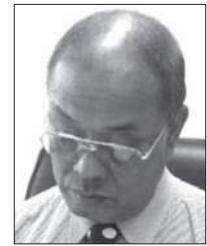
Today we look around, wobbly, broke though stubbornly singing, "Don't worry, be happy, it's only bankruptcy!" Did I miss something?

In my days as the CNMI's delegate to what's now the South Pacific Community, I've visited islands south of the equator to attend

**By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



meetings of representatives and annual conferences.

Tahiti remains that indelible experience I've had with real island hospitality. Like my kanaka braddah said, "Eh, if you've never been to heaven, Tahiti's one more step to heaven."

I asked him to compare it to Saipan. He looked at me a bit embarrassed but related "Dis place braddah is the reverse where you get to meet the chief downstairs named Lucy." Gee! I had my laugh of a lifetime. It's all about common courtesy, true?

Honolulu ranks second while Saipan and Noumea are last on my list. The aloof Frenchman at the immigration counter has no inkling what hospitality entails. He flashes a "screw you" smile. The guys and gals need tons of training in the hospitality business given that the airport is our front door in tourism.

■ ■ ■

Obamacare has forced increases in healthcare premiums beyond the reach of average, low-income regular workers and retirees here. Obama's promise of reducing healthcare cost by \$2,500 or you could "keep you plan...doctor" has failed royally too. Yet he continues preaching to the multitude as though it has been one grand success. But then he loves listening to his voice, not his scattered thoughts on a slew of lies!

■ ■ ■

Moving police officers closer to the community is an outstanding program. It's a deterrent in every sense of the word. It puts Magellan's Troops in their place. It feels good seeing a patrol car around the neighborhood. It's when their visit is scarce that begins to tie knots in my tummy. Good work Commissioner Deleon Guerrero!

## The road out of Iraq leads through Iran

**I**'m skeptical about the capacity of the force of arms to provide solutions that endure very far into the future.

You probably are, too, if your confidence in the use of military power during World War II—some people call it the last "good war"—has been undermined by subsequent wars, especially Vietnam and our decade-plus wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The long-term futility of our recent wars does not indict the quality of our military. Our army and navy are the world's best at what armies and navies do. Despite the ill-conceived missions mounted by civilian leadership during the last 50 years, our soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines have performed with dedication and self-sacrifice.

And, clearly, our nation needs a strong military, and sometimes we need to use it. Unfortunately, some people are so bad that the only choice is to kill them.

ISIS, for example. The Islamic State in Iraq and Syria is made up of zealots who, in their dedication to their version of Sharia law, are willing to flog, amputate, stone, crucify and behead.

They subjugate women, kill children, and are capable of cold-blooded massacres like last week's of 1,700 captured Iraqi soldiers, murdered over differences that harken back to a disagreement over who should succeed Islam's prophet, Mohammed, over a thousand years ago.

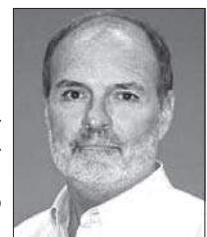
But any enthusiasm for using force against ISIS should be tempered with realism. Fortunately, President Obama's instincts are toward caution and deliberation. But events are moving quickly.

Obama has announced the deployment of 300 military advisers, as well as his willingness to take "targeted and precise military action," which probably includes airstrikes that, according to a senior administration official cited by the New York Times, could extend into Syria.

**BY JOHN M. CRISP**

MC-CLATCHY-TRIBUNE

*John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Mc-Clatchy-Tribune, teaches in the English Department at Del Mar College in Corpus Christi, Texas. Readers may send him email at jcrist@delmar.edu.*



The pressure to strike is substantial. Not only does ISIS deserve whatever violence we can inflict on them, the U.S. has a lot invested in a stable Iraq. By some accounts the total cost of our involvement in Iraq reaches \$4 trillion. Most important, 4,500 soldiers died over there.

Obama has predicated military action on an abrupt change of course by the Iraqi government toward a tolerant, multi-sectarian, democratic direction that reverses the exclusionary pro-Shia policies of the current prime minister, Nouri al-Maliki.

This seems as unlikely as the Bush/Cheney dream of Iraq as a beacon of democracy and reliable source of oil in the Middle East. And bombing more Muslims to achieve this end seems as unlikely now as it did to some critics in 2003.

Everyone agrees that the solution to this crisis has to be political, rather than military. However, once the serious shooting starts, events tend to take on a life of their own.

Here's the important point: No political solution in this area is feasible if it doesn't involve Iran. Iran's interests in Iraq parallel ours for a short distance, and then they diverge. Both the U.S. and Iran desire a stable Iraq, but Iran is Shia, and it would prefer Shiites in charge next door, rather than a fractious conflation of Shia, Sunni and Kurds.

The Middle East is a deadly chess game. Sometimes in chess you make such a bad mistake during the first few moves that there's not much to do but to start thinking about the next game.

Bush/Cheney made a very bad move in March 2003. Iran gained an advantage. It has an interest in destroying ISIS and extending its hegemony over Iraq, which could result in a Shia-dominated realm that stretches from Tehran to Damascus.

Is this the best outcome? No, but it may be the only possible one. A multi-sectarian, democratic Iraq is unlikely. An ISIS-dominated Iraq is unthinkable. But unless we're willing to undertake full battle in a religious civil war, we're obliged to acknowledge that we lost control of events a decade ago, and that the most likely road out of Iraq somehow leads through Iran. It's their chessboard.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### An open letter to Ben Garrett

**D**ear Ben Garrett: I don't rebut people's opinion because everyone is entitled to his/her own opinion. But your June 20, 2014, letter to the editor is not an opinion letter but rather an intention to smear my character using misleading information of mismanagement and an attempt on your part to raise public suspicions by asking the question, "[D]o we have confidence in Mr. Taisague?" I guess this is your way of playing dirty tricks and politricks to the general public because I am a candidate. I am not surprised!

Ben, allow me to provide you the correct information. The university was not closed down due to mismanagement on my part but because of fraud committed by the founder of the university who was also the chairman of the board and financier for the university. I was the university's vice president when I discovered and reported to the president about the illegal agreements entered between the chairman and the recruited foreign students. The president was also a board member. The president left for Guam supposedly for family matters but then ended up resigning from her position while in Guam, leaving me holding the "bag of problems" created by the illegal agreements and of her failure to follow my advice. Shortly after her resignation, I assumed her position.

The university was a locally registered institution and licensed to provide postsecondary education. While the chairman was on trial, the university continued to fulfill its responsibility to its students.

Courses continued to be taught as per semester schedule. When the chairman was found guilty, the head office in Korea gave instruction to finish the fall semester and then to close the university. After receiving the closure instruction, I notified the CNMI Immigration, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Board of Regent that Saipan University will close down after the fall semester and it will no longer be offering postsecondary courses. Students who decided to continue their education on Saipan were transferred to Northern Marianas College. The rest who decided not to continue their education and didn't want to leave the island were referred to the Attorney General.

Ben, I have no "strategy move" for writing all my letters to the editor as you indicated in your June 20, 2014, letter to the editor. Your instinct serves you wrong as well as your allegation of mismanagement on my part while working at the university. If you have any questions about me, feel free to call me at 287-0494 so we can discuss it over coffee. You will find me to be a very friendly and open person.

By the way Ben, I am not being unfriendly to the governor but I am very disappointed in him as a governor. If you want to know why, let us have coffee someday to tell you all about it so you will understand where I am coming from and perhaps you would agree with me.

Have a nice day Ben.

**Jesus I. Taisague**

Koblerville, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°

## Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 84	▼ 80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 82	▼ 79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 83	▼ 80
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 83	▼ 79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 82	▼ 79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 82	▼ 79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 81	▼ 79

## Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 62	▼ 58
Beijing	Thundershowers	▲ 91	▼ 71
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84	▼ 73
London	Cloudy	▲ 70	▼ 55
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 85	▼ 64
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 76
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 59	▼ 50
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 88	▼ 77
New York	Thundershowers	▲ 82	▼ 71
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 68
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 75	▼ 57
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲ 74	▼ 66
Rome	Thundershowers	▲ 78	▼ 65
Salem	Showers	▲ 72	▼ 55
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲ 63	▼ 54
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 80	▼ 64
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 81	▼ 69
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	▲ 90	▼ 73

## Tides

### Sunrise/Sunset

### Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:49 AM	6:50 PM	Today	3:55 AM	5:01 PM
Thursday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM	Thursday	4:44 AM	5:52 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM	Friday	5:33 AM	6:41 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM	Saturday	6:23 AM	7:27 PM
Sunday	5:50 AM	6:51 PM	Sunday	7:13 AM	8:11 PM

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

### PICTURES

■ ISLAND SNAPSHTOS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

■ BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

■ BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

■ SAMUT SARAI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

■ TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

### CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

### REQUIREMENTS

#### For pictures:

■ Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.

■ Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.

■ Photos must have been taken in the last two months.

■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

#### For announcements:

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

### HOW TO SUBMIT

■ E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee\_vallejera@saipantribune.com.

■ Fax: (670) 235-3740

■ Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950

■ Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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■ The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.

■ For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- \*11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at [www.nmicrimestoppers.com](http://www.nmicrimestoppers.com)

For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235-3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

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## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 18, 2014

### DEPARTURES

#### SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5

#### SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7
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#### ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7
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#### SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 6 via NRT
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#### SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

#### SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

0Z606	2:20am	6:00am	1

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Parents have to be involved in their kids' education

**M**r. Dubrall, in your letter in last Friday's paper (June 20, 2014), titled "PSS, stop marginalizing poor, underachieving children," you place a divide between children of different social classes, emphasizing the distinction between those children who come from well-off families and those who don't. You said that "by first grade, kids already know who has

money and who doesn't and the ones that don't are already being marginalized by their economically better off classmates." This might be true if you were stateside, but here in the islands things are different. All classes interact and play with each other regardless of their families' income levels. You go on to say those children who come from affluent families get better grades and receive more awards than kids who

come from families that are not economically sound. However, that is not always the case. I've seen it firsthand with children whose families are not as well-off as others; they are ahead of their class. Look at some of the top students in schools on island; you will see that not all of them come from privileged families. It is the love and support that they get from home that helps them accomplish their educational

goals, not how much money their parents earn.

Your attempt to segregate these children teeters on discrimination. Your insinuation that underprivileged kids are not given fair treatment is not legitimate because all of the kids receive the same education. Meeting with my kids' teachers, I see the support and encouragement they give their students. However, it is up to me as a parent to get involved and make sure that my kids are doing their best in school. And no, it does not matter whether I am making \$50 an hour or \$5.50 an hour, my involvement with my kids' education is something that I believe that all parents should do regardless of income level.

You see, Mr. Dubrall, PSS is not at fault. The breakdown of family values is the real culprit. What I mean by this is that the family household plays an important role in how a child is raised and educated. If a child is raised in a household of contempt, then that child is likely to perform below their true potential. However, if a child is raised in a household of affection and respect, then that child is likely to perform at an optimum level. A child learns through their environment

and the most impressionable environment a child spends most of their time in is their home. It is the child's home life that dictates how that child will develop and not the Public School System. Their job is to educate and reinforce the values that the child learns at home.

Mr. Dubrall, you infer that you care about how children are educated and about fairness in schools; however, it appears that you have a hidden agenda. Are you upset that someone close to you did not get an award for their academic endeavors? If so, then you as a role model could see what you could do to help. You don't need to bash PSS or discriminate against those who may have more than you. Instead, you can become a contributor to that child's life. I'm sure you could find time out of your busy letters-to-the-editor schedule to help. Like I said, it is the family who either helps or hinders a child's educational goals. Sixteen-hour workdays and low income is not an excuse for failing your child, especially when it comes to their education. Others have accomplished more with little.

As far as awards go, I feel that students should be awarded for their outstanding

scholastic performance. The President of the United States even has an academic achievement award for students who excel in their studies. I also believe in healthy competition in schools and in individualism. You see, not all of us are the same; we are unique in our own right. Even if we receive the same information, how we process the information is not always the same. Children should learn to be different and celebrate their own individualism and respect each other for who they are and not what they have. They shouldn't have to conform to any stereotypical role, but instead be proud of their differences. They should also learn to compete and be awarded for accomplishing their goals. When the correct balance is struck, competition can be a healthy part of a child's life. Mr. Dubrall, seeing as you are 100 percent against competition, you could probably petition PSS to get rid of all the programs that promote educational competition, such as the AG's Cup, Math Court, and forensics. Start one and let's see how many signatures you get.

**Glenn Deleon Guerrero**  
Capital Hill, Saipan

## Brief history of hospital structure in America vs the CNMI

*Second of a three-part series*

**T**oday's American hospitals most typically have three areas of governance for direction and control. The medical staff represents the physicians and typically makes recommendations for appointment to the hospital medical staff to a board of trustees. In addition, it provides self-directed peer review as a form of self-over-sight. No other function gets in between the doctor-patient relationship.

The hospital administration employs a nursing supervisor or director of nursing. All nurses are under these department heads. The second is the hospital administration. They oversee the day-to-day financial structure of the hospital. If and only if physicians are employed then the administration has power over these physicians as well.

The goal of "the patient comes first" by physicians is often in conflict with "the financial side comes first" of hospital administrators. Luckily, lessons were learned from the founding fathers of the first Continental Congress. By the time our

Constitution was born, it was clear to Franklin, Adams, Jay, Morris and George Washington, that power within a democracy "for the people and by the people" should not rest with one person, for history has shown that "absolute power corrupts absolutely." Today, the American system of hospitals each has a third and ultimate power of governance. They have a board of trustees to adjudicate and intervene in times where the hospital administrations and the physicians do not share parallel interests and in times where physicians in control of privileging and credentialing show malice toward newcomers of members of the medical staff that they want out for political reasons.

The powers, duties, and responsibilities are conferred upon the board of directors by an authority outside itself. Having a board of directors helps to ensure that no one person is more important than the corporation itself and sets the tone for the moral direction and mission of the hospital.

Switch to England in 1906. The English Court of Appeal, in *Automatic Self-Cleansing Filter System Company versus Cunningham*, found that the role of the board was

bound by the "articles of association." The board members must use "proper purpose" and not self-serving interest and must have a quorum in order to convene.

The law takes the position that "good faith" must be done by the board. They are fiduciary directors and conflicts of duty and interest are typically divided into three categories. Conflicts of interest are where the board member seeks to gain personally or give favoritism to an administrative action by way of political alliance to which he himself will receive some monetary or non-monetary gain. The board member has a strict obligation to disclose any conflicts of interest and remove himself from voting in these matters involving conflict of interest. The second is that the board member must not use the hospital's property, information, or opportunity for their own means or profit, and the third is that the board member may not profit from the hospital or corporation.

*To be continued.*

**Grant Walker, MD**  
Board Certified and Spine Fellowship Trained Orthopedic Surgeon, Idaho

## Buenas Tao Tao Marianas

**O**ver the past few months something fishy has been going on here. Let me explain.

First, at the initial birthday fundraiser for our beloved Gov. Inos they announced that 25 percent will be restored to the retirees and all interest for those that pulled out their retirement will be paid. Then they forced this casino law down our throats and expect us to just accept it. Why? Why do we have no say? Is

it because Inos is in bed with Best Sunshine Ltd? Did he promise that the casino will go through without a hitch? How much did he and others already receive from them and are scared for their lives? All these questions we need to ask ourselves to truly understand the situation that our beloved governor put us in.

My dear people of the CNMI it is time once again to stand up against corruption and voice out that we are tired of the same old BS. It is time

**Lester Ngeskebei**  
Koblerville, Saipan

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
Judiciary Administrative Office**  
Guma'Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice  
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950  
Telephone: (670) 236-9715 · Facsimile: (670) 236-9702



## PUBLIC NOTICE

The Judiciary's records indicate that there may be property held in the Superior Court's third party fiduciary account that has gone unclaimed for a period of one year or more. The apparent owners of this property are:

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2. Hyon Ok Lee	12. Hong Jian Huang	22. Kenji Yoshida
3. Ying, Du Li	13. Yan Zhen Chen	23. Sung Bae
4. Albert S. Rospel	14. Jun Yang	24. Quan, Jizhe
5. Lee, Kwok	15. Michael J. McCart	25. Park, Mu C.
Kwun Andy	16. Dorte Weital	26. Guiying Qin
6. Jun Wang	17. Fu Qin Ying	27. Wang, Sheng Sheng
7. Shu Xian Hong	18. Yuemei Lu	28. Liankan, Zhu
8. Zheng Cia a.k.a.	19. Nick Nicholson	29. Lu, Hong
Zhen Shaojin	20. Chang Zhe Jin	30. Wang, Zhiguang
9. Huang Zhi Jie		
10. Sang Hee Kim		

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# Tourists recount fear during Guam crash-stabbing

By GRACE GARCES BORDALLO  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**HAGATNA, Guam (AP)**—A 74-year-old woman testifying Monday about a deadly rampage in Guam said the day started with a family beach trip and ended with her son-in-law dead and four other relatives taken to a hospital.

Katsuko Nohara of Japan said her family was walking back to their hotel after a seafood dinner when Chad Ryan DeSoto drove his car up on the sidewalk and barreled toward them.

"[It was] like a jet coaster—it made a very loud noise and all of a sudden the car was in front of me and the light was so bright like a thunderstorm," Nohara said through a court interpreter. "In that moment, all I could think was my fam-



Suspect Chad DeSoto, seated at right at the table, sits next to public defender Eric Miller as they listen to testimony from Haruka Nohara during trial at the Superior Court of Guam on Monday, June 23, 2014, in Hagatna, Guam.

ily, they will all die."

Nohara was one of five Japanese tourists flown back to Guam at the expense of prosecutors and the territory's main tourism agency to testify at the trial of the 22-year-old DeSoto on Monday. He is accused of killing three people and hurting 11 others by hitting some with his car then getting out and stabbing bystanders during the Feb. 12, 2013, attack.

One of the tourists killed was Hitoshi Yokata, whom Nohara said urged her to take the trip to celebrate a granddaughter's graduation. Yokata died two days after being hit by the car. The others killed were 81-year-old Kazuko Uehara and 29-year-old Rie Sugiyama, who were stabbed.

Yokata's wife, Michiko Yokata, said she suffered at least

eight broken ribs, has plates on both legs and has undergone multiple surgeries and rehab.

"My husband is gone so I am lonely every day," she said. "My husband's mom, because he's gone, there's no one taking care of her."

Daisuke Okawachi, a 27-year-old who was honeymooning with his pregnant wife, said a middle-aged man fell on top of him, face down and wasn't moving after being hit by a car.

DeSoto is charged with aggravated murder and attempted murder. He has pleaded not guilty by reason of mental illness, disease or effect.

Guam tourism officials are sharing the costs of flying in witnesses in part because of the importance of international tourism for the island.

## 'CW permit issues not affecting CHC's daily operation'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Despite a few denials and some delays in processing some contract workers' CW permits, the public hospital's daily operation continues to function uninterrupted.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Esther L. Muña told *Saipan Tribune* that only a very small fraction of their more than 100 CW permit holders have encountered delays in the processing of their papers.

Muña said the corporation has a total of 120 contract workers, mostly nurses hired from the Philippines.

Pursuant to federal immigration rules, CW holders whose permits have expired or their applications are denied must stop working until a new permit is approved.

Muña said the corporation strictly adheres to this guideline and that only three to four staffers have been taken off the floor for this reason.

"We've done it maybe in three or four of our staff. We have to take them off the floor and stop them from working. In cases like this, we're closely working with Kilili's office [Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan] to help us expedite the processing," said Muña.

She disclosed that CHCC tries to submit CW papers within 90-day periods. However, because of unexpected RFEs, or requests for further evidence by the USCIS, this delays the processing for certain applications, which is beyond the corporation's control.

"We try to submit in 90 days but sometimes RFEs come close to the expiration already,"

she said, adding that those employees who were ordered stop working are placed on administrative leave.

In cases of certain positions left temporarily vacant by CW holder who are stopped from working, Muña said there's no choice but to incur overtime for other staff.

However, Muña pointed out that "we're not stopping operation of certain clinics or units at the hospital."

### Strategic plan

The CW program was implemented in the CNMI in 2011. For Muña, the three-year window from 2011 to 2014 is not enough time to plan on how nonresident workers will be adequately replaced in their positions, especially at the lone public hospital on island.

But with the recent decision

of the federal government to extend the program until 2019, Muña is optimistic that CHCC can find the right amount of manpower until this deadline.

"We have to plan and make sure it's in the budget. This five-year extension [of the CW program] will be part of the hospital's strategic plan," said Muña, adding that this plan is currently being worked on.

She said the corporation, on the third year of the extension period, would probably begin sponsoring a number of CW nurses with H1-B visas. Another batch of them, she said, may be processed in the fourth year of the extension.

The idea, Muña said, is for the CHCC not to be hit by a one-time large fee for H1-B visa applications.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that CHCC is currently sponsoring

H1-B applications for at least two critical positions at the hospital, pursuant to the requirements of the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicare. These positions are for the infection control and quality control programs, both of which are occupied by CW holders.

If proper planning is enforced, Muña is confident that CHCC can produce seasoned nurses within the allotted five-year timeframe.

In next five years, Muña said,

## Governor corrects proposed NMC budget to meet MOE

### »Ways and Means prepares 2015 budget bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

lege amounting to \$315,192, as this should be funded by general fund appropriations," Inos told House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) and Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan).

The U.S. Department of Education required MOE funding when it gave the CNMI \$44 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funds in 2009. This mandates the local government to allocate a certain percentage of its annual budget on public education. That percentage is equivalent to 40 cents to a dollar or 25 percent of the overall CNMI government budget. The MOE must come from local funds.

Sablan said yesterday the House Ways and Means Committee is taking into consideration the errata sheets from the governor.

Besides the \$3,930,008 to NMC from general fund appropriations, the college also gets \$700,000 from the Commonwealth Worker Fee Fund and \$86,762 from Compact Impact. The total allocation to the NMC with the combined sources will amount to \$5,031,962 under the governor's proposal but the figures could still change at the Legislature.

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality**  
Division of Coastal Resources Management  
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315  
[www.crm.gov.mp](http://www.crm.gov.mp)

### NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE DCRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofsneider through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a DCRM Agency Officials Meeting will be held on Friday, June 27, 2014, Friday at 10:00 A.M. at the Bureau Of Environment Coastal Quality Office 2nd Floor Conference Room, Gualo Rai, Saipan.

### AGENDA

#### PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- a) Call to Order
- b) Roll Call

#### PERMIT APPLICATION

- IRONWOOD BLUE WATER HOMES, LLC - 80 UNIT
- MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING
- CRM PERMIT NO. SMS-2014-X-020
- a. Permit Application Summary
- b. Discussion by DCRM Agencies/DCRM
- c. Permit Application Status

#### OTHER MATTERS

#### ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ FRANCES A. CASTRO  
Director, DCRM

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality**  
DEQ: P.O. Box 501304, DCRM: P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950-1304  
DEQ Tel: (670) 664-8500/1; Fax: (670) 664-8540  
DCRM Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315  
[www.deq.gov.mp](http://www.deq.gov.mp) and [www.crm.gov.mp](http://www.crm.gov.mp)

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing regarding Coastal Permit Application No. SMS-2014-X-020 submitted by Blue Water Homes, LLC for the construction of Ironwood Multi-family Housing project on lot no. 694 in Gualo Rai, Saipan. The project includes 80 units of multi-family dwelling complex; community center; covered pavilions with barbecue facilities; water storage; solar power and solar water heater; basketball court; playground; and fenced perimeter and gated access.

The public hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, June 25, 2014, 6:30 PM at the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality office located in the Gualo Rai Center (GRC) Building in Gualo Rai, Saipan.

The public is invited to attend and make oral comments regarding this project. The project file is open for review and comments during business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. Written comments can be submitted to the DCRM Office located in the GRC Bldg. in Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mail to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, P.O. Box 501304 or fax at 664-8540. All written and oral comments received will be made a part of the permit application record, and will be considered in any decision made concerning the proposed project.

Please contact the Division of Coastal Resources Management at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or require further information regarding this project.

Frances A. Castro  
Director  
Division of Coastal Resources Management

# Extreme hot temperature advisory: Stay indoors

The Commonwealth Health-care Corp.'s Division of Public Health would like to inform the general public about the extreme hot temperature that we are experiencing lately in the Marianas that could be dangerous to your health.

**What happens to the body as a result of exposure to extreme heat?** People suffer heat-related illness when the body's temperature control system is overloaded. The body normally cools itself by sweating. But under some conditions, sweating just isn't enough. In

such cases, a person's body temperature rises rapidly. Very high body temperatures may damage the brain or other vital organs. Several factors affect the body's ability to cool itself during extremely hot weather. When the humidity is high, sweat will not evaporate as quickly, preventing the body from releasing heat quickly. Other conditions that can limit the ability to regulate temperature include old age, youth (age 0-4), obesity, fever, dehydration, heart disease, mental illness, poor circulation, sunburn,

## Who is at greatest risk for heat-related illness?

Those at greatest risk for heat-related illness include infants and children up to four years of age, people 65 years of age and older, people who are overweight, and people who are ill or on certain medications.

**What is heat stroke?** Heat stroke is the most serious heat-related illness. It occurs when the body becomes unable to control its temperature: the body's temperature rises rap-

idly, the sweating mechanism fails, and the body is unable to cool down. Body temperature may rise to 106°F or higher within 10 to 15 minutes. Heat stroke can cause death or permanent disability if emergency treatment is not provided.

## What are the warning signs of a heat stroke?

Warning signs of heat stroke vary but may include the following:

- An extremely high body temperature (above 103°F)
- Red, hot, and dry skin

(no sweating)

- Rapid, strong pulse
- Throbbing headache
- Dizziness
- Nausea
- Confusion
- Unconsciousness

## What is heat exhaustion?

Heat exhaustion is a milder form of heat-related illness that can develop after several days of exposure to high temperatures and inadequate or unbalanced replacement of fluids. Those most prone to heat exhaustion are elderly people, those with high blood pressure, and those

working or exercising in a hot environment.

## What steps can be taken to cool the body during heat exhaustion?

- Drink cool, nonalcoholic beverages.
- Rest.
- Take a cool shower, bath, or sponge bath.
- Seek an air-conditioned environment.
- Wear lightweight clothing and stay out of direct sunlight.

For more information, contact CHCC HPEPP at 236-8201 or 8950. (CHCC)

# A Rock Solid Warrior: Staff Sgt. Nicole Cabrera

By PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFF  
386TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

**SOUTHWEST ASIA**—This week's Rock Solid Warrior is Staff Sgt. Nicole Cabrera. Cabrera is a client support administrator with the 387th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron. The Tinian, Northern Marianas Islands native is deployed from the 72nd Security Forces Squadron, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

**Q: What is your family's military heritage (anyone else in your family who was/is in the military)?**

**A:** I am a Chamorro native from an island close to Guam, called Tinian. I am the first to have joined the military from my family.

**Q: What is your mission here (in general terms)?**

**A:** My first month here, I was working as a Base Defense Operations Center Controller. I was then selected to fill the Commanders Support Staff/Client Support Administrator position. I am currently in-process personnel as they arrive, as well as manage the decorations program, account for all ADPE equipment, as well as manage a few other programs, such as the Unit Fitness Program.

**Q: What are some of the best parts of your mission?**

**A:** The people I am surrounded with, not only in my unit but in the 387th Air Expeditionary Group as well. Our leadership team is amazing and I could not have asked for a better team of professionals to work with while I'm deployed.

**Q: What are some of the challenges you face while conducting your mission, and how do you overcome them?**

**A:** The biggest challenge I have is being away from my five-year-old daughter, Taliana. I think with most people, just the separation from the ones we love is the hardest part of deploying. I've received the training and necessary equipment to be able to accomplish my mission here.

**Q: How does your job differ in a deployed environment vs. home base?**

**A:** As a Security Forces member, our priorities don't change. It is to guard personnel and resources. It is really the same

job both here and at home station for me. Our responsibilities as defenders remain the same. Although I currently am an administrative person within my unit, my main job is to deter and defend this base against threats.

**Q: How many times have you deployed?**

**A:** This is my second deployment. I deployed to the same unit back in 2012.

**Q: What makes this deployment unique?**

**A:** Our mission in the 387th AEG is unique as we are the second largest Aerial Port of Debarkation for the Air Mobility Command. I've had the honor and privilege to witness dignified transfers of fallen service members as they make their final trip home, as well as see troops enter and exit the AOR to sustain regional security in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. I am reminded daily of why my unit is providing security here, especially when we're



386TH AIR EXPEDITIONARY WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
This week's Rock Solid Warrior is Staff Sgt. Nicole Cabrera. Cabrera is a client support administrator with the 387th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron. The Tinian, Northern Marianas Islands native is deployed from the 72nd Security Forces Squadron, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

reminded so often of the instability in the region.

**Q: Why did you join the Air Force?**

**A:** Like a lot of high school

graduates, I wanted to be able to explore the world, get paid to do so, as well as be able to continue to pursue higher education. I wanted to do something I was proud of and be able to serve my country and joining the Air Force has definitely fulfilled all these desires. One of the greatest compliments is when strangers thank me for my service to our great nation.

The best "thank you" I received was when I traveled back home for the first time since joining the Air Force. A man named Henry who was at the "Court of

Honors" (a memorial on Saipan where the names of over 5,000 U.S. Armed Forces men and women who died during World War II on the Northern Marianas Islands were inscribed) pointed to a name, which was his father's. He explained how his father was killed during World War II on the island of Saipan when he was just a year old and he promised himself, he would one day visit the island his father died on, as he never got to know him. There he was, over 60 years later, finally fulfilling his promise to himself. I can't begin to explain how honored I was to have met him, and to have him thank me for my service.

*The Rock Solid Warrior is a weekly spotlight focused on an outstanding member of the 386th Air Expeditionary Wing. These unsung heroes have been nominated by their unit leadership to be recognized for their efforts while deployed.*



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

You should have four of the world's brightest candles to blow out because you've made the world a much brighter place to live for four whole years. Happy 4th birthday Izeiah Walter Samabile Bodig! Love always, Mum.

# ATTENTION

## ALL CNMI RETIREES & Former DB MEMBERS

### IMPORTANT MEETING

**About OUR 25% and Interest Earned for former DB MEMBERS.**

**PLEASE join us tonight, at 5:30pm at the Minachom Attdao across the Susupe Gym.**

**We need to UNITE to protect our FUTURE.**

**This ad is paid for by CNMI Retirees and former DB Members.**

# III MEF Band plays for WWII veterans on historic battleground

By CPL. ADAM MILLER  
III MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE / MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS PACIFIC

**SAIPAN**—Members of the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band took part in the 70th Anniversary Reunion of Honor ceremonies on June 11-15 at the Northern Marianas Islands of Tinian and Saipan.

The ceremonies were put together to mark a milestone of peace in the region and pay tribute to both U.S. and Japan veterans of the battles of Saipan and Tinian during World War II.

"As Marine musicians, part of our job is to preserve history and

tradition," said Staff Sgt. Justin A. Billingsley, an electric bassist and platoon sergeant with the III MEF Band and Richmond, Virginia, native. "The battles of Saipan and Tinian are a part of our Marine Corps lore, part of our identity, so we came here to honor them."

The weeklong celebrations brought together community members from across the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands, World War II veterans who served on Tinian and Saipan, and representatives from each branch of the U.S. military.

"It was an amazing, humbling



U.S. MARINE CORPS/CPL. ADAM B. MILLER

Cpl. Carlos D. Prothow practices before a parade June 15 on Saipan. Prothow is a trombonist with the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band and Houston, Texas, native.

and educational experience," said Sgt. Sean E. Salazar, a clarinetist with the III MEF Band and Orlando, Florida, native. "I enjoyed taking part in this momentous occasion, listening to the veterans speak about their experiences here. It really gave me a new appreciation for what they did for our country and the people of the CNMI."

The III MEF Band is the only continuously forward-deployed band in the Marine Corps. They travel throughout the Asia-Pacific region frequently, performing for service members and civilians alike. Along the way, they get the opportunity to learn about the many different cultures and histories in the region.

"I enjoyed learning about the battles for the islands, reading about the first-hand accounts of the Chamorro people and what they had to endure during that time," said Cpl. Amanda V. Davis, a clarinetist with the III MEF Band and Appomattox, Virginia, native. "I think the most eye-opening thing I learned though was how much of a positive impact the U.S. had on the CNMI after the war."

Although the battles took place over 70 years ago, there is no shortage of reminders around the island such as sunken naval equipment, destroyed tanks, and bomb shelters.

"We can't forget what took place here," said Billingsley.



U.S. MARINE CORPS/CPL. ADAM B. MILLER

Cpl. Heather H. Song performs a solo June 13 at the American Memorial Park on Saipan. Song is flautist with the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band and Houston, Texas, native.

"There are fewer and fewer veterans every year. Unless, we actively keep trying to remember the sacrifices that were made here, we will lose that part of our heritage; not just our military heritage as Marines, but as Americans too."



U.S. MARINE CORPS/CPL. ADAM B. MILLER

Jayson B. Tinney, left, shows Gunnery Sgt. Francisco M. Gaxiola, center, and Sgt. Andre M. Thomas a map of the battles of Saipan and Tinian June 13 at the American Memorial Park on Saipan. Tinney is park ranger with the U.S. Park Service and resident of Saipan. Gaxiola is the enlisted conductor with the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band and Los Angeles, California, native. Thomas is an automotive organizational technician with Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III MEF, and Miami, Florida, native.



U.S. MARINE CORPS/CPL. ADAM B. MILLER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, left, and Rear Adm. Tilghman Payne present ceremonial wreaths June 15 on Saipan during the 70th Anniversary Reunion of Honor ceremony. The ceremony marked a milestone of peace in the region and to paid tribute to both U.S. and Japan veterans of the battles of Saipan and Tinian during World War II. Inos is the Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. Payne is the commander of U.S. Naval Forces Marianas.



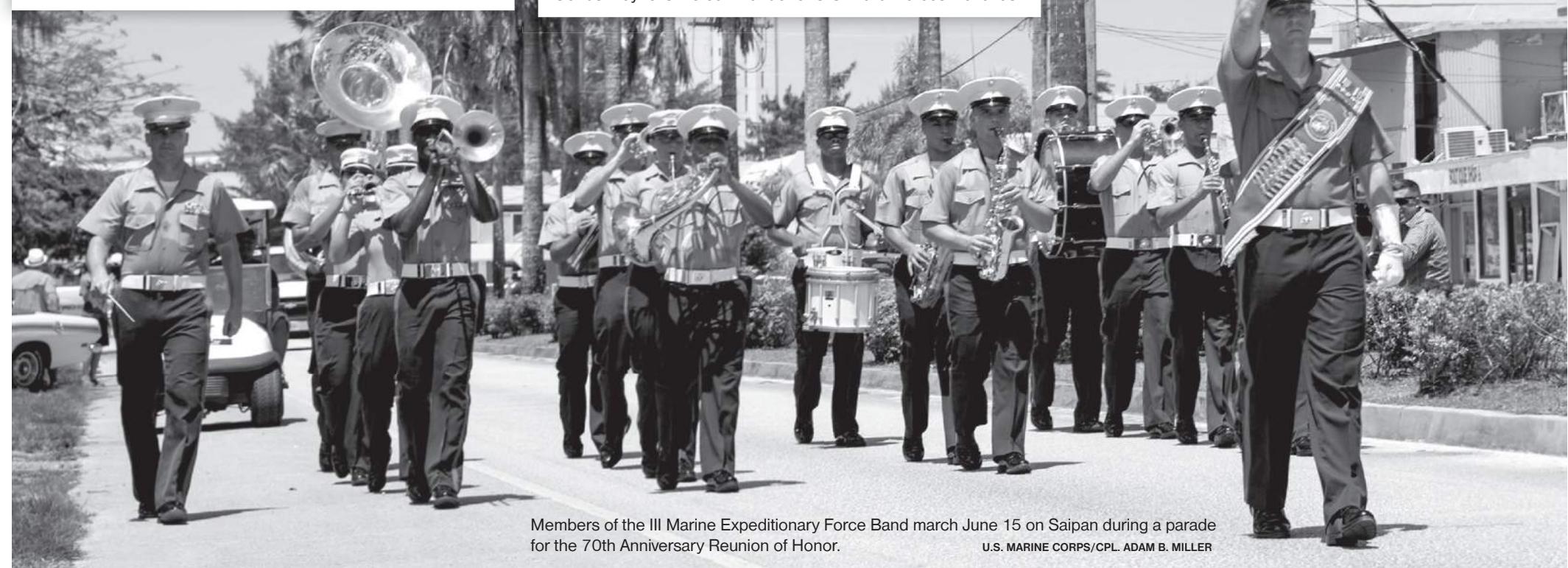
Members of the III Marine Expeditionary Force Band march June 15 on Saipan during a parade for the 70th Anniversary Reunion of Honor.

U.S. MARINE CORPS/CPL. ADAM B. MILLER



U.S. MARINE CORPS/CPL. ADAM B. MILLER

A Marine Corps color guard detail marches June 15 on Saipan during a parade for the 70th Anniversary Reunion of Honor. The Marines are with 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.



# Nation

## ACROSS THE NATION

### Magnitude-7.9 Alaska quake spawns small tsunami

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska** (AP)—A strong earthquake near Alaska's Aleutian Islands triggered a tsunami warning Monday, but only small waves measuring several inches hit coastal communities. The National Tsunami Warning Center canceled all tsunami warnings late Monday afternoon, about four hours after the earthquake struck. The magnitude-7.9 earthquake was centered about 13 miles southeast of Little Sitkin Island, or about 1,400 miles southwest of Anchorage.

### US memo justifying drone killings is released

**NEW YORK** (AP)—The secret U.S. government memo outlining the justification for the use of drones to kill American terror suspects abroad was released by court order Monday, yielding the most detailed, inside look yet at the legal underpinnings of the Obama administration's program of "targeted killings." The 41-page memo—whose contents had previously been summarized and released piecemeal—was heavily redacted for national security reasons, with several entire pages and other passages whited out. But it argues among other things that a targeted killing of a U.S. citizen is permissible under a 2001 law passed by Congress soon after 9/11. That law empowered the president to use force against organizations that planned and committed the attacks.

### City tells app to stop auctions of parking spaces

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—San Francisco's city attorney issued a cease-and-desist demand Monday to a mobile app called Monkey Parking, which allows people to auction public parking spaces that they're using to other nearby drivers. In a letter to Paolo Dobrowolny, the CEO of the Rome, Italy-based tech startup, city attorney Dennis Herrera cited a provision in San Francisco's police code that prohibits people and companies from buying, selling or leasing public on-street parking and mandates fees of up to \$300 for drivers who violate the law. Herrera's warning to Monkey Parking is the latest attempt by city government officials and state lawmakers nationwide trying to figure out how to regulate Web-based businesses that offer shared parking, transportation and housing services using mobile applications. Among the more popular ridesharing services are Uber and Lyft, and popular housing apps include Airbnb.

# Obama says US should have paid maternity leave

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—President Barack Obama said Monday that the United States should join the rest of the industrialized world and offer paid leave for mothers of newborns.

"Many women can't even get a paid day off to give birth—now that's a pretty low bar," Obama said at the White House Summit on Working Families. "That, we should be able to take care of."

The president is touting paid maternity in the midst of a midterm election campaign focused on women voters, without describing the details of how he would fund such a system. "If France can figure this out, we can figure this out," Obama said.

Florida Republican Sen. Marco Rubio, a potential 2016 presidential candidate, responded to Obama by announcing he will outline his vision Wednesday for "how modern conservative reforms can help bring the American Dream within reach for millions of single mothers, young Americans and working families."

"Telling federal agencies to do what they're already supposed to do and endorsing partisan legislation that will never

pass is not the sort of bold, innovative leadership we need," Rubio said in a statement.

While some companies offer paid family leave to attract workers, the 1993 Family Medical Leave Act only requires that employers provide unpaid leave

for medical and family reasons.

Obama praised California, Rhode Island and New Jersey for creating a state benefit. But he has not endorsed legislation that would create a similar national system funded by a payroll tax, and he pledged in his



President Barack Obama crosses the street as he walks to have lunch at a Chipotle Mexican Grill in Washington, Monday, June 23, 2014, prior to attending the White House Summit on Working Families.

2008 presidential campaign not to raise taxes on families making under \$250,000 a year.

Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., has introduced legislation that would provide up to 12 weeks of paid leave through a fund in the Social Security Administration, paid for by contributions from employees and employers of 0.2 percent of wages. She said she has personally encouraged the president to back it, despite his tax pledge.

"We're talking about 2 cents of every \$10," she said in an interview at the summit. She said without such a fund, eight out of 10 workers can't take advantage of their right for family leave because they can't afford it.

Obama instituted six weeks of paid leave for White House staff when they have a child, get sick or injured or need to care for an ailing family member, using his authority to set his staff's compensation under the personnel code. He does not have the power to award

paid leave to other federal workers without congressional action since they are covered under a different section of law. The White House has supported the goal of legislation introduced by lawmakers to change that, but it has stalled in Congress.

"There is only one developed country in the world that does not offer paid maternity leave, and that is us," Obama said. "And that is not the list you want to be on—on your lonesome. It's time to change that."

He also directed federal agencies to expand flexible work arrangements where possible, and Obama chief of staff Dennis McDonough said in a staff memo that includes the White House—a hard-charging environment where long hours are the norm. "I know how hard each of you works to support the president and the nation. Please know that we'll be looking for ways to better support you as well," McDonough wrote.

## IRS head says no obstruction of Congress in probe

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—The head of the IRS brushed aside accusations Monday that the agency has obstructed investigations into the targeting of tea party and other political groups, even as Republican lawmakers questioned his credibility.

Commissioner John Koskinen was appearing at a rare evening hearing on Capitol Hill to answer questions about lost emails by a key figure in the probe. On Tuesday, the committee will hear from a White House official who once worked at the IRS.

"I know tonight will be difficult, and it deserves to be difficult for both sides," said

Rep. Darrell Issa, R-Calif., chairman of the House Oversight Committee. "We have a problem with you, and you have a problem with maintaining your credibility."

Issa accused Koskinen of misleading the Oversight Committee in the spring, when he promised to turn over Lois Lerner's emails. Since then, the IRS has disclosed that Lerner's computer crashed in 2011, losing an unknown number of those emails.

Koskinen said he first learned there was a problem with Lerner's computer in February, but didn't learn that emails were lost until April. The IRS notified

Congress June 13.

Lerner is the former head of the division that processes applications for tax-exempt status. The Oversight Committee is investigating the handling of applications from tea party and other political groups.

"I subpoenaed you here tonight because, frankly, I'm sick and tired of your game-playing in response to congressional oversight," Issa told Koskinen. "You, commissioner, are the president's hand-picked man to restore trust and accountability at the IRS. You testified under oath in March that you would produce all of Lois Lerner's emails subpoenaed by this committee."

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

### SALES REPRESENTATIVE - HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

A minimum of 3 years work related experience required with a successful sales record. Ideally with an Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing plus experience in F&B/restaurant operations and menu preparation. Proficient in MS Excel, Word, Outlook. Ability to speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese or Korean language will be an advantage. Must have a valid driver's license and a clean driving record. Availability to work evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Interested applicants must have their own reliable transportation. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

### ACCOUNTANT

BA in Accounting and a minimum of 3 years experience is required, including preparation of financial statements, processing accounts receivables & payables and other general accounting procedures. Must possess work-related skills, have knowledge & experience in purchasing, inventory control and bank reconciliation. Proficient in various computer software: MS Excel, Word, Outlook and ACCPAC/Sage or similar accounting system. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants must submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by September 14, 2014. Applications may also be sent to: mpk@dandq-international.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

**D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment.**  
Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

### Accountant

Preferably a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting with at least 3 years work-related experience in Property and Casualty Insurance, handling cashiering, disbursements, receivables, payables, purchasing and general accounting procedures. Knowledge in SAP R3 FICO system, General Insurance Information System, MS Word and Excel software is an advantage. Must be able to work under time pressure and flexible hours.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd.

Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience.

To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Monday, July 07, 2014.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

## WANTED

### NEWS REPORTER

The *Saipan Tribune* is looking for a FULL-TIME news reporter.

### QUALIFICATIONS

- Can work within deadlines;
- Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player;
- Computer literate;
- With photography skills;
- Must have reliable means of transportation.

If you have what it takes to be part of a dynamic team, email your résumé and samples of your work to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com). You may also drop it off at the *Saipan Tribune* office on the second floor of the JP Center Building on Beach Road, Garapan. **ON-ISLAND HIRES PREFERRED.**

Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified women, minorities, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

# World

## Kerry hands dire warning to Iraqis over future

**BAGHDAD** (AP)—Warning of the “existential threat” posed by Sunni militants, Secretary of State John Kerry said Monday the U.S. is prepared to take military action even if Baghdad delays political reforms, noting that the risks of letting the insurgency run rampant threaten dangers beyond Iraq’s borders.

But he stressed military action would not be in support of the present Shiite-led government of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki.

### Rebels agree to abide by cease-fire in Ukraine

**DONETSK, Ukraine** (AP)—Pro-Russian insurgents in eastern Ukraine agreed Monday to respect a cease-fire declared by the Ukrainian president, raising hopes for an end to months of fighting that have killed hundreds and ravaged the country’s industrial heartland.

The announcement came as the Russian and U.S. presidents traded demands over the conflict. Russian President Vladimir Putin urged direct talks between the government and the rebels. President Barack Obama warned Putin that Moscow will face additional costs if it does not help ease the crisis.

The insurgents’ pledge to

Kerry, on a few hours’ visit to Baghdad, urged Iraq’s leaders to quickly set aside divisions as the only means of stopping the vicious Sunni insurgency and said Iraq’s future depended on choices Iraq’s leaders make in the next days and weeks.

“The future of Iraq depends primarily on the ability of Iraq’s leaders to come together and take a stand united against ISIL,” Kerry told a news conference, using the acronym for the al-Qaida-breakaway group,

the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, that has captured huge swathes of Iraqi territory in the north and west.

“Not next week, not next month, but now,” he said. “It is essential that Iraq’s leaders form a genuinely inclusive government as rapidly as possible.”

It was a dire warning to leaders of Iraq’s bitterly divided Shiite, Sunni and Kurdish communities that came at a time when the Middle Eastern nation was facing its worst crisis since the

their homes.

Alexander Borodai, one of the rebel leaders who took part in Monday’s talks in Donetsk, said rebels would respect Poroshenko’s cease-fire, which lasts through 0700 GMT (2 a.m. EDT) Friday.

The insurgents had previously demanded the Ukrainian military withdraw its troops from the east as a condition for any talks, so Borodai’s statement represented a softened stance that raised expectations that the cease-fire could hold. Even before the insurgents made their pledge, the government said that there had been no fighting in the east since Monday morn-

ing withdrawal of U.S. forces in late 2011 after eight years in Iraq.

The Sunni fighters have virtually erased Iraq’s western border with Syria and also taken territory on the frontier with Jordan.

Noting the dangers the Sunni militants pose to Iraq and the region, Kerry said the U.S. was prepared to take military action if necessary even before a new government is formed.

“That’s why, again, I reiterate, the president will not be hampered if he deems it necessary, if the formation is not complete,” he said, referring to Iraqi efforts to form a government that bridges the deep divisions

among the majority Shiites and minority Sunnis, Kurds and other groups.

Kerry stressed, however, that if military action is taken—President Barack Obama has said he is considering airstrikes—it has nothing to do with support for a specific government.”

“It’s not specifically support for the existing prime minister or for one sect or another,” Kerry said. “It will be against ISIL, because ISIL is a terrorist organization, and I think everybody today that we talked to understood the urgency.”

Kerry arrived in Baghdad just a day after the Sunni militants

captured two key border posts, one along the frontier with Jordan and the other with Syria, deepening al-Maliki’s predicament. Their latest victories considerably expanded territory under their control just two weeks after the group started swallowing up chunks of northern Iraq, heightening pressure on al-Maliki to step aside.

Their offensive in the north and west takes the group closer to its dream of carving out an Islamic state straddling both Syria and Iraq. Controlling the borders with Syria will help it supply fellow fighters there with weaponry looted from Iraqi warehouses, boosting its ability to battle beleaguered Syrian government forces.

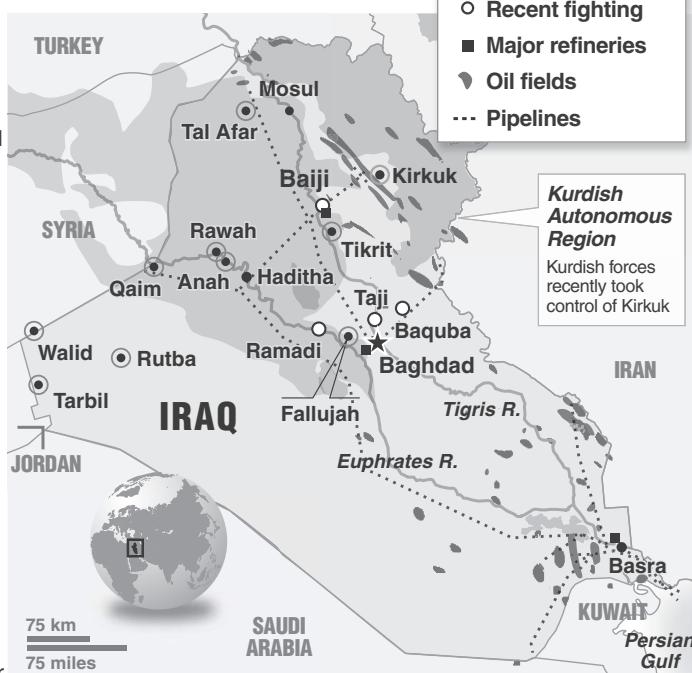
### ISIS insurgents gain more ground

*ISIS fighters continue to take more territory in a push to set up a Sunni Islamist state in northern Syria and western Iraq.*

#### A history of ISIS

- **1990s** Formed in Afghanistan as “The Group for Monotheism and Jihad” by Jordanian jihadist Abu Musab Zarqawi, an ally and rival to Osama bin Laden and al-Qaida
- **2001** Forced out of Afghanistan by U.S. invasion; relocates to Iraq as U.S. war begins in 2003
- **Early 2004** After series of mysterious operations in Iraq, Zarqawi announces group’s presence; in May, U.S. accuses Zarqawi of personally beheading American businessman Nick Berg
- **Oct. 2004** Zarqawi swears allegiance to al-Qaida; group now called “al-Qaida in Iraq”
- **June 7, 2006** Zarqawi killed in U.S. airstrike in Hibhib, Iraq
- **Oct. 12, 2006** Merges with four other groups to form “The Islamic State of Iraq”
- **2007** U.S. surge provides support to Iraqi tribesmen who band together to fight the Islamic State in Anbar province
- **2010** After years of being underground, the Islamic State begins a bombing campaign; Abu Bakr al Baghdadi takes command
- **Early 2012** Fighters in group help form the Nusra Front to

© 2014 MCT



fight against the Bashar al-Assad regime in Syrian civil war

- **April 2013** Group splits from Nusra; announces itself as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria; draws rebuke from al-Qaida commander Ayman al-Zawahiri
- **Aug. 2013** ISIS begins infiltrating northern Syria, kidnapping journalists and aid workers, attacking leaders of other rebel groups
- **Jan. 2014** Nusra and moderate rebels attack ISIS driving it from Syria’s Idlib

Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau, AP, Reuters, The Long War Journal, Securing America’s Future Energy Graphic: Judy Treble, Robert Dorrell

#### WORLD BRIEFS

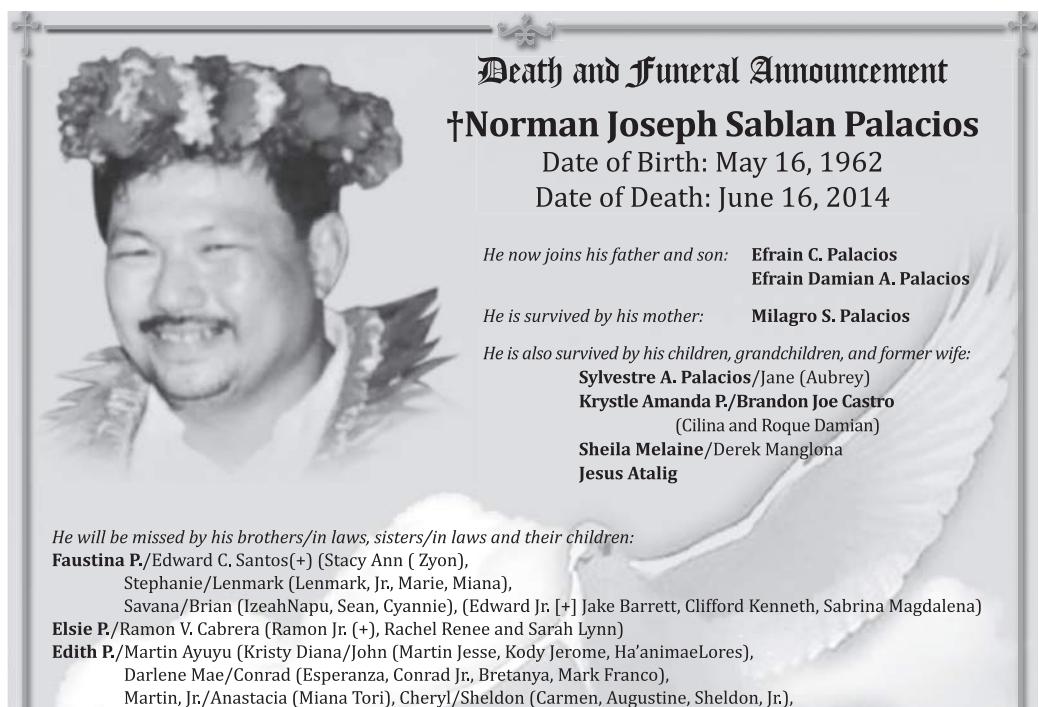
##### Syria hands over last of declared chemical weapons

**NICOSIA, Cyprus** (AP)—Syria finished handing over to Western powers Monday the 1,300 tons of chemical weapons it acknowledged possessing, completing a deal reached last fall under threat of U.S. airstrikes. The most dangerous material will be transferred to an American ship, which will move into international waters and use specialized equipment to destroy the chemicals over the next two months. Other material will be disposed of at toxic waste sites in various countries. Questions persist over whether Syrian President Bashar Assad is hiding undeclared poison gases or attacking rebels with chlorine—a toxic industrial gas that is not specifically classified as a chemical weapon.

##### Malaysia court upholds ‘Allah’ ban for non-Muslims

**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia** (AP)—Malay-

sia’s top court weighed in Monday on the country’s longstanding fight over the word “Allah,” saying non-Muslims cannot use it to refer to God. But the government said hours later the judgment applied only to one newspaper at the center of the case, adding still more confusion to a deeply divisive debate over religious freedom in the Muslim-majority country. In a 4-3 ruling, the Federal Court upheld a government ban on the use of the word Allah by non-Muslims in a case against The Herald, a Catholic Malay-language weekly. The court did not elaborate on the implication of its ruling, but the government issued a tersely worded statement saying it only applied to The Herald and that Malaysian Christians can still use the word Allah in churches. The government statement appeared to be an attempt to diffuse tensions in the nation of 29 million people, including a large non-Muslim minority that has often complained that it is treated unfairly in jobs and education and is denied full freedom of religion.



**Death and Funeral Announcement**  
**†Norman Joseph Sablan Palacios**

Date of Birth: May 16, 1962  
 Date of Death: June 16, 2014

He now joins his father and son: Efrain C. Palacios  
 Efrain Damian A. Palacios

He is survived by his mother: Milagro S. Palacios

He is also survived by his children, grandchildren, and former wife:  
 Sylvestre A. Palacios/Jane (Aubrey)  
 Krystle Amanda P./Brandon Joe Castro  
 (Cilina and Roque Damian)  
 Sheila Melaine/Derek Manglona  
 Jesus Atalig

*He will be missed by his brothers/in laws, sisters/in laws and their children:*

Faustina P./Edward C. Santos (+) (Stacy Ann (Zyon),  
 Stephanie/Lenmark (Jr., Marie, Miana),  
 Savana/Brian (IzeahNapu, Sean, Cyannie), (Edward Jr. (+) Jake Barrett, Clifford Kenneth, Sabrina Magdalena)  
 Elsie P./Ramon V. Cabrera (Ramon Jr. (+), Rachel Renee and Sarah Lynn)  
 Edith P./Martin Ayuyu (Kristy Diana/John (Martin Jesse, Kody Jerome, Ha’animaeLores),  
 Darlene Mae/Conrad (Esperanza, Conrad Jr., Bretanya, Mark Franco),  
 Martin, Jr./Anastacia (Miana Tori), Cheryl/Sheldon (Carmen, Augustine, Sheldon, Jr.),  
 Jacin/Ariel (Drey)  
 Joyce P./Manuel Camacho (Mona Rose/Byron (KeannyLores),  
 Robert Manuel/Yerma (Hayden, Mia), Jacob Joab (+), Joab Jacob/Gydia (Danny),  
 Joseph Peter/Maya (Tristen),  
 Michelle Monique/Michitaki, Jesse James, Efrain Albert)

Joseph Peter S. Palacios/Theillia (Elena, Joefrain, Joelia Lores)  
 Alfonso S. Palacios (Tasi)  
 Derek S. Palacios/Manuela (Darneil Jerome, Milagro Maria, Mike Derek, Derek Jr., James David)  
 Efrain S. Palacios, Jr./Annalyn (Trevin Keiji and Zyon Keith)  
 Dolores Rosa P./Anthony Paul Camacho (Brannon Jay and Brianna Mikayla)

*Special Friends:* Nora M. Matalog, Glen John Matalog  
 Jason Ray Matalog  
*Caretakers:* Erika de Guzman and Michael Boling

*He will also be missed by numerous nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.*

Daily Mass of intentions are being celebrated at 6:00 a.m., at the Mount Carmel Cathedral. Funeral Services will be held on Friday, June 27, 2014. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral and interment services will be held at the Veteran’s Cemetery at Marpi where he will rest in peace.

Thank you very much for your thoughts and prayers.

**The Palacios family**



# Campus Life

## Robots roll forward in Yap, Micronesia

**YAP, Micronesia**—Two-dozen high school students in the Micronesian State of Yap showed off a year's worth of work at a high stakes robotics public competition in Colonia earlier this month.

The pupils and their coaches from Yap Catholic High School and the Yap SDA School began working on the robots at the start of last school year. The teams met at least once a week throughout the spring semester and practiced with the robots every day within the final weeks before the annual Yap Robo-Day Exhibition. In total, four teams from the two schools competed at the public event.

In this year's competitions, two robots faced off head-to-head on a playing field divided into two halves by an 8-inch high wall. Tennis balls, foam soccer balls, and foam footballs were scattered throughout the playing field. The objective of the game was to place as many balls as possible onto the other team's side of the wall. The winning team was the one that had the least number of balls on their side of the wall at the end of two 5-minute rounds.

"This was an impressive demonstration of applied science, technology, engineering, and mathematics instruction (STEM)," said Neil Mellen of



Student teams pose with their robots.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

the U.S.-based charity "Habele," which equipped both schools with the materials to create the VEX robots. "This third annual Yapital Robo Day is a testament to hard work of students, the expertise of their classroom instructors, and the support of their engaged parents."

Each of the student-crafted robot involved complex engi-

neering. Many different designs and prototypes were needed before the teams were satisfied with their final products. Two of the robots from Yap Catholic High employed unique claw designs that could grab and lift balls, as well as rams to knock tennis balls off of the dividing wall. The third robot also included a battering ram, and used

an innovative two-wheel system to trap balls into a reservoir and then shoot them through holes in the wall. The intricate designs showed a great deal of understanding and creativity from the students, honed through trial and error over the course of two semesters.

The day of the public exhibition began with excit-

ing volleyball and basketball competitions between YCHS and SDA. The sports teams had also been organized at the start of the school year and equipped by Habele with custom jerseys and professional grade balls. During the day, YCHS students sold local food and coconuts as a school fundraiser. The day concluded

with the robotics competition, which began with two of the YCHS robots competing against each other to demonstrate the rules of the game. In the final match, two sophomore drivers—Annalyn Tareg and Kobe Sacres—took home the State Championship title for YCHS for the third year in a row. (*Habele*)

## Stretching the limits of what kindergartners can do

Kindergarten students at Saipan Community School are fortunate to have a creative and imaginative teacher who uses her talents and unending energy to help them exceed far beyond what normal kindergartners would accomplish during their year.

Rachel Epperson, who has taught for two years in the U.S. mainland and three on Saipan, designs activities, assignments, and projects to use in her classroom that would seem too advanced for normal 5- and 6-year-old students. But Rachel has seen such promise in children that age and she strives to help them think "outside the box" and stretch beyond the limits of learning ABCs and numbers. They get the basics, but they also do fun and challenging activities. And she builds and enriches their vocabulary, using actual terms that will be used as the child progresses through the school.

Rachel is a graduate of Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Waxahachie, Texas, which is a private Christian university and Bible college. She holds a Texas certification, as well an education certification from the Association of



Kindergarten teacher Rachel Epperson, right, poses with her students at Saipan Community School.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Christian Schools International, an organization of Christian preschools, elementary, secondary and postsecondary schools.

You wouldn't expect kindergartners to do much in a science fair. But Rachel prepared her students well, and they did several exceptional projects, like one that compared den-

sity of different objects. By the end of their year, her kindergarten class was definitely ready for first grade.

"The creativity and preparation that she puts into her work is evident," said SCS director Pastor Phil Warren. A Power-Point presentation she did for kindergarten graduation is one

example. She asked the students what they wanted to be when they grow up. Each child held a small chalkboard with a picture of someone in that profession, like nurse or ballerina or policeman. Then they dressed up that way. "The entire graduation, which Rachel coordinated, was just a really fun experience,"

Warren said. "I know parents just loved her presentation."

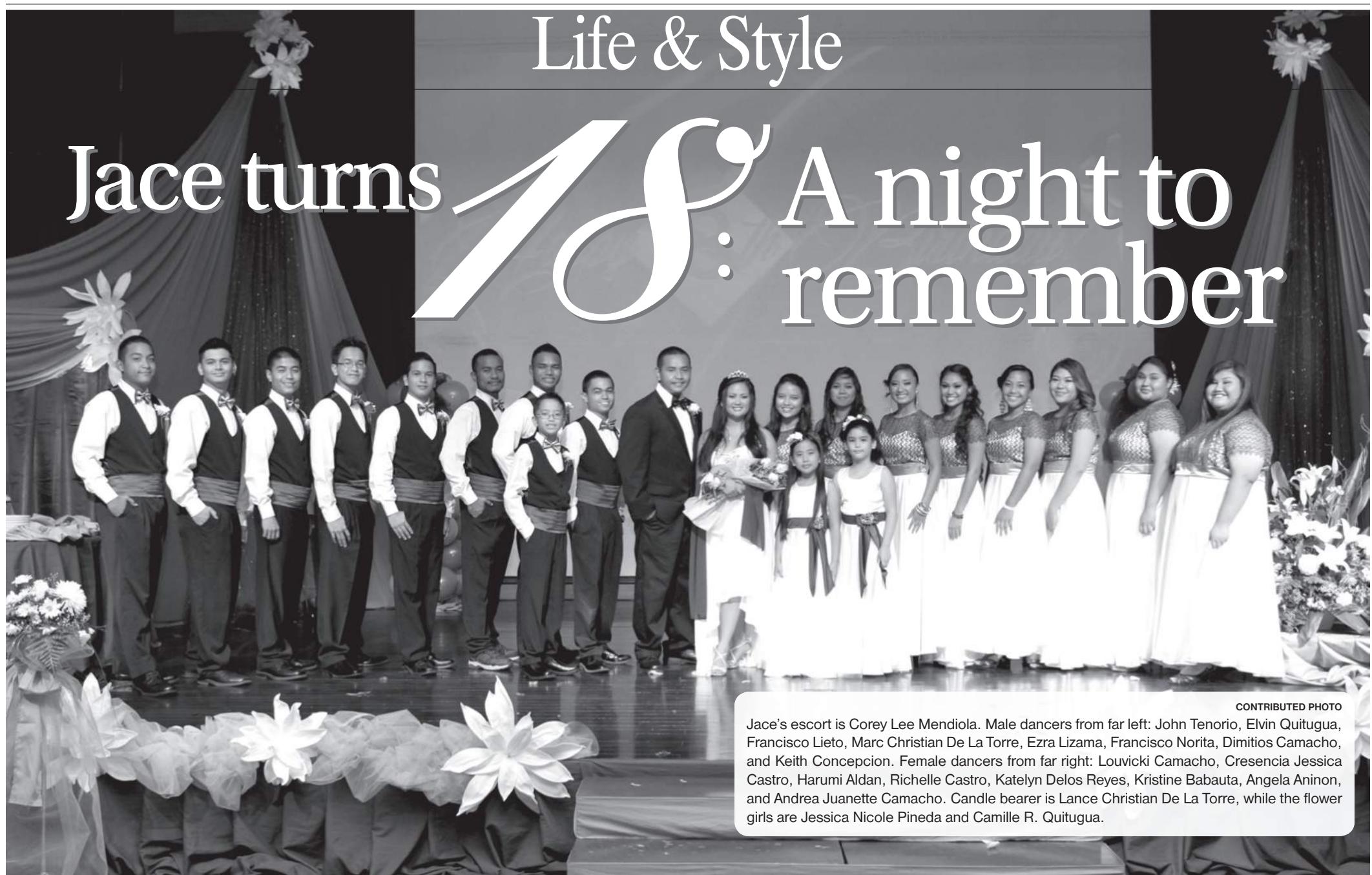
"Kindergarten at SCS is a safe community where learning is adventurous and full of fresh discoveries," Rachel said. "One benefit to SCS is the unique individualized instruction due to small, intimate classes. I am blessed to work

in such a positive environment with talented, bright and diligent students. The students I teach are a caring and thoughtful community that foster relationships like a family."

For more information about SCS, call the SCS office at 234-6687. Enrollment is open now. (SCS)

# Life & Style

## Jace turns 18: A night to remember



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jace's escort is Corey Lee Mendiola. Male dancers from far left: John Tenorio, Elvin Quitugua, Francisco Lieto, Marc Christian De La Torre, Ezra Lizama, Francisco Norita, Dimitios Camacho, and Keith Concepcion. Female dancers from far right: Louvicki Camacho, Crescencia Jessica Castro, Harumi Aldan, Richelle Castro, Katelyn Delos Reyes, Kristine Babauta, Angela Aninon, and Andrea Juanette Camacho. Candle bearer is Lance Christian De La Torre, while the flower girls are Jessica Nicole Pineda and Camille R. Quitugua.



The birthday celebrant is joined by her family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

**9** In June 7, 2014, one girl's transformation into a young lady was witnessed by over 170 guests at the Saipan World Resort Taga Ballroom. Jace Pineda celebrated her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday with the customary Filipino coming-of-age debut. Guests were overwhelmed by the lovely atmosphere as the colors royal blue and olive green dominated the ballroom's theme and décor. The proud celebrant's mother, Tess Pineda, praised and thanked the decorator, Philip Canuto of Island Touch, for "his magic touch and lovely decorations" for the evening.

As is tradition, the debut featured a father-and-daughter dance, a Grand Cotillion de Honor, and the presentation of 18 roses and 18 candles.

Jace and her father, Elmer Pineda, had their moment in the

spotlight with a special dance to one of Jace's favorite songs, *Beautiful in My Eye*.

The customary social dance known as the Grand Cotillion de Honor, performed by the celebrant's personally chosen entourage and the celebrant herself, wowed the crowd who witnessed a well-choreographed mix of two waltzes followed by a dance known as "Bachata." The traditional 18 roses consisted of 18 important men in Jace's life who each shared a dance with her, while the 18 candles consisted of wishes from 18 of her closest friends and relatives, who touched her heart as they reminisced the time they spent together.

Jace later said she truly appreciated all that was done to make the night one that was truly memorable for her. She will forever cherish the memories of being able to celebrate her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday in the way she always

hoped, wished, and dreamed for. She thanked her parents, family, friends, her cotillion entourage, decorator Philip Canuto, mistress of ceremony Minda Castro for being such a great host that evening; guest performer Froilan de Leon, who serenaded the guests with his angelic voice; Saipan TV for capturing all the precious moments, and the F&B staff of Saipan World Resort for their awesome job at making this such a successful event. Jace also expressed gratitude to the overall planner, coordinator, and choreographer, Ernie Molina, for sharing all his endless efforts, sacrifices, time, and talent. In spite of his busy schedule, he managed to organize this event to be the best for her and one that she will never forget. (PR)



Jace Pineda celebrates her 18th birthday with a coming of age party at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Ballroom on June 7, 2014.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Verdict upheld against 'Girls Gone Wild' founder

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—An appellate court on Monday upheld a \$19 million judgment against "Girls Gone Wild" founder Joe Francis in a slander case filed over his claims that casino mogul Steve Wynn had threatened to kill him.

The California 2nd District Court of Appeal in Los Angeles found no basis to overturn the judgment or order a new trial, and the justices also left in place an injunction barring Francis from repeating the claims.

After a 2012 trial, a jury found that Francis' statements about threats were defamatory, and a judge ordered him not to

repeat the statements. Francis and Wynn testified during the trial.

Francis said he was told Wynn had threatened to hit him in the head with a shovel and have him buried in the desert. Wynn denied making such threats and claimed the statements by Francis damaged his reputation and put his casino license at risk.

A jury initially ordered Francis to pay Wynn \$40 million, but a judge later cut the amount by \$21 million.

Francis appealed the verdict, arguing that he initially made the comments in a court proceeding over a gambling debt owed to Wynn and should not be held liable.

He argued that his comments to "Good Morning America" and to a TMZ reporter merely confirmed his description of the threats, but a three-justice panel of the appellate court disagreed.

Mitchell Langberg, an attorney for Wynn, applauded the ruling in a statement.

"We will continue to assist



Wynn

Mr. Wynn and Wynn Las Vegas as they vigorously pursue Francis to collect all of his debts to them, including this \$19 million judgment," Langberg wrote.

Francis called the ruling ridiculous.

"We fully expect this to be overturned by the California Supreme Court expeditiously," Francis said.

If the ruling is allowed to stand, it should give pause to others who describe threats during court proceedings, he said.

Francis created the "Girls Gone Wild" video series but said he has had no affiliation with the company for two years.

## 'American Idol' bringing back same judging panel

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Fox says it's bringing back the same trio of "American Idol" judges for the show's 14th season.

The network announced Monday that Jennifer Lopez, Keith Urban and Harry Connick Jr. will be judging singers again in 2015, and Ryan Seacrest will remain the host.

This year's "American Idol" included the show's lowest-rated finale ever, part of a continuing ratings slide for the once-dominant TV series. Fox has shaken up the judges' panel in past years to try to boost viewership but is deciding to stay the course this time.

The network is taking the show's downfall into account in scheduling, saying it will air fewer hours next season, and in many weeks there will be just one episode instead of two.

"American Idol" auditions are coming up in Uniondale, New York; Nashville, Tennessee; New Orleans; and San Francisco.



In this Jan. 13, 2014 file photo, judges, from left, Keith Urban, Jennifer Lopez, and Harry Connick Jr. are seen during the panel of "American Idol" at the FOX Winter 2014 TCA, at the Langham Hotel in Pasadena, Calif. AP

## Chinese company sets aside 'Transformer' dispute

BEIJING (AP)—A Beijing property developer and Paramount Pictures said Monday that they have smoothed out a dispute over the new "Transformer" movie and it will be released in China as scheduled.

The Beijing Pangu Investment Co. Ltd. said the two sides "have gained mutual trust and reached understanding" after friendly negotiations, days after it demanded edits to remove any reference to its property over an alleged contractual default.

"Because a third party created some misunderstanding, we were having some disagreement with Paramount," said Norman Song, general manager of the Pangu 7 Star Hotel. "After several days of intense discussion, we came to an agreement."

Rob Moore, vice president of Paramount, told a news conference that the film would be released in mainland China as scheduled on Friday, the official



A replica model of the Transformers character Bumblebee stands in front of Qianmen Gate, as part of a promotion of the movie "Transformers: Age of Extinction" in Beijing, China Saturday, June 21, 2014. AP

Xinhua News Agency said.

He said a team has been set up to negotiate with Pangu and that the depiction of Pangu in the film is "perfect," according to Xinhua.

Director Michael Bay said he wanted to "put all this misunderstanding aside." Neither side provided details.

The Beijing company, which owns the commercial complex

Pangu Plaza, announced last week that it had filed a lawsuit alleging that Paramount and two of its Chinese associates failed to fulfill their obligations in a sponsorship deal.

Pangu said an English version of the contract provided by Paramount was markedly different from a Chinese version that Pangu signed with the two associates in terms of costs and the length of time Pangu is seen in the film.

"Transformers: Age of Extinction," the fourth film in Bay's blockbuster franchise, premiered last week in Hong Kong and opens in North America on Friday.

## Woman is puzzled by guy who refuses to get naked

**DEAR ABBY:** I met a guy four months ago. Our relationship is new and pretty casual for the most part. We like each other's company and spend nights together, but when we're intimate, he keeps his clothes on—boxers and all. He is only 26, but he has told me about past relationships, so I know he has had experience.

Over the past two years he has lost almost 100 pounds. He looks great now—healthy and toned. I have seen him get in and out of the shower. (I noticed a little excess skin on his stomach, but not much.) It's really weird. I don't feel comfortable taking my own clothes off when he doesn't.

This isn't exactly a deal breaker for me, as I obviously am attracted to him. I just would like him to be comfortable with me. Should I address this with him, and if so, how? Or should I just leave it be for now?

AWKWARD SITUATION IN GEORGIA

**DEAR AWKWARD:** It's apparent that he still has body issues having to do with his extreme weight loss. If you know him well enough to spend nights at his house, you should be able to communicate with him about sex on a mature level and tell him the experience would be more satisfying for you if there was less between you when you are in his arms.

**DEAR ABBY:** My fiancee and I work full time. We are trying to save for our wedding and a deposit for a house. The trouble is, after paying rent, bills and day-to-day expenses, we are left with next to nothing.

I played poker when I was in college, which generated a nice income during my late teens and early 20s. A few months back, I decided to pick it up again and found a group of people who like to play. Since then, I have been playing four hours two or three nights a week, and it has generated an extra monthly income of \$1,000 to \$1,500. Our finances have improved a lot.

There are nights my fiancee wants me to stay home. She says if I had a part-time job, she would understand why I couldn't stay home on the days she asked. But to me, poker IS a part-time job, and it pays more than anything else I could find in this area. I play the same set schedule every week, so she should know what nights I need to go in to "work." What do you say?

ALL-IN IN VIRGINIA

**DEAR ALL-IN:** You appear to be a skillful card player or a very lucky one. Assuming that the games in which you are participating are legal, I see nothing wrong with what you're

## 1942 Oscar auctioned in Rhode Island

**EAST GREENWICH, R.I.** (AP)—A rare auction of an Oscar statuette has brought a total of \$79,200.

Nanci Thompson of Briarbrook Auctions in Rhode Island said Monday that amount includes a 20 percent buyer's premium for the 1942 Oscar. It was awarded to Joseph C. Wright for color art direction for his work on "My Gal Sal," starring Rita Hayworth and Victor Mature.

Wright died in 1985. His nephew inherited the statue, one of two Wright won in 1942.

Thompson declined to disclose the name of the buyer, but said "you would recognize the name."

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences doesn't allow an Oscar statuette to be sold without first offering it back to the academy for \$1. But the auction house says that restriction doesn't apply to awards before 1950.

Clayton has "a long road to recovery," Abrahams said.

"It's a very serious situation," he said. "She's feisty, and she's with us. She's gonna make it."

Clayton began her career in the early 1960s and has recorded with Ray Charles, Carole King, Bobby Darin and the Rolling Stones. Her story was among those told in the film "20 Feet From Stardom," which won the best documentary film Oscar earlier this year.

## Singer Merry Clayton injured in car accident

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Merry Clayton, the veteran backup singer who was featured in the Oscar-winning documentary "20 Feet From Stardom," is recovering after being seriously injured in an automobile accident.

Clayton's manager, Alan Abrahams, said in a statement Monday that the 65-year-old singer suffered "severe injuries to her lower body, including major trauma to her lower extremities," in the June 16 crash.

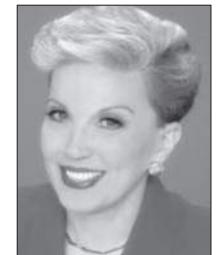
## SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

### Muti to conduct 'Requiem' in WWI anniversary event

**ROME (AP)**—Maestro Riccardo Muti will mark the 100th anniversary this year of World War I's outbreak by leading a youth orchestra in a performance of Verdi's "Requiem." The Italian orchestra conductor said in Rome on Monday that he hoped the music would serve to pay tribute to the heroes of the war "through a message of reconciliation." Italy's Luigi Cherubini Youth Orchestra will perform with young musicians from other countries in what Muti called an "expression of musical harmony" and peace on July 6 in Redipuglia, site of a monument to World War I dead in northeastern Italy. Muti said the "Requiem" funeral piece evokes a message "from the dead, for the dead."

### Terry McMillan switches publishers

**NEW YORK (AP)**—Terry McMillan is ending a long-term relationship—with her publisher. The author of such best-sellers as "Waiting to Exhale" and "Disappearing Acts" has left Viking after 25 years and signed with Crown Publishers for her next novel. Crown announced Monday that McMillan's next book will be called "I Almost Forgot About You," the story of a woman "who shakes things up in her life." Viking issued a statement Monday saying that it had been unable to come to terms with the author and wishing her "every success" in the future. McMillan isn't leaving home entirely. Both Crown and Viking are part of Penguin Random House, although imprints within the company sometimes compete for authors. Earlier this year, Viking lost another longtime star, T. Coraghessan Boyle, who joined Ecco.



## DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

doing. Because your fiancee feels lonely when you're not with her, suggest that she do something with friends or take up a hobby. After all, you're doing this for the both of you, aren't you? And this "part-time job" isn't going to be forever.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes



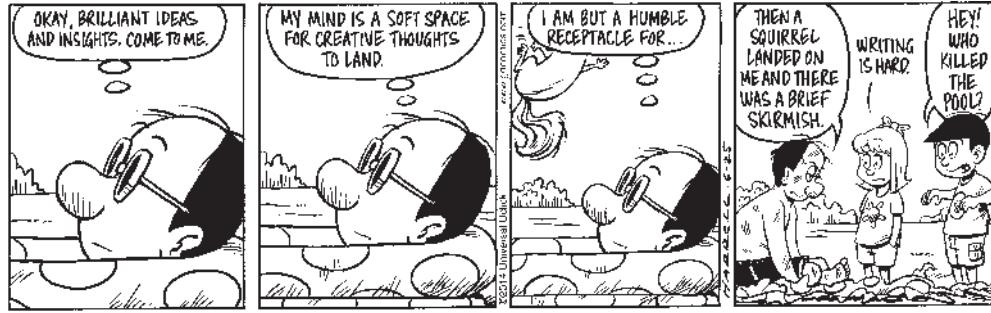
By Bill Waterson

## Garfield®



By Jim Davis

## Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

## The Duplex



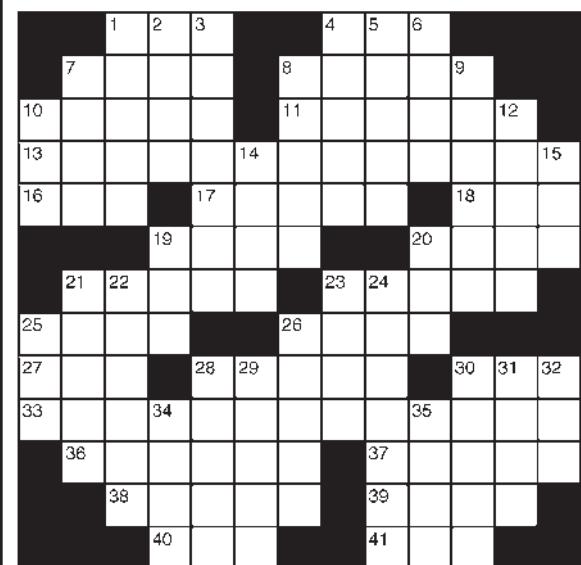
By Glenn McCoy

## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	27	Actress	DOWN	15	Advertiser
1 Tummy muscles	27	Mendes	1 Dodge	15	Advertiser
4 Guide to the treasure	28	Societal level	2 Low	19	Chapeau
7 Elliptical	30	Lingerie item	3 Unexpected	20	Chinese chairman
8 — disturb"	33	Deals a crushing blow	4 Chocolate variation	21	Enjoy
10 Got up	36	1998's "Psycho," e.g.	5 Fed the kitty	22	Having talons
11 Thespians	37	Lone Ranger's companion	6 Indigent	23	Late-night host
13 Complains loudly	38	Scuba specialist	7 Algerian port	24	"Rock-a-Bye Baby" site
16 Finish	39	Raw minerals	8 Old-fashioned	25	Brooks or Blanc
17 Beg	40	Scarlet	9 Cancer or Capricorn	26	Michelmas daisy
18 Expert	41	Each	10 Exist	28	Long for
19 Pin part			12 Regretful	29	Requested
20 Muck partner			41 Each	30	Humongous mistake
21 Frightening				31	Deteriorates
23 — London, "What Not to Wear" co-host				32	I love, to Livy
25 Soda shoppe order				34	Eastern potentate
26 Re planes and such				35	Drill

Solution time: 23 mins.  
  
 Yesterday's answer 6-25



For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

## STUMPED?

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Busy Phillips, 35; Linda Cardellini, 39; Ricky Gervais, 53; Carly Simon, 69.

**Happy Birthday:** This will be a fast-paced year. You will be pushed to respond quickly. Don't feel pressured—step back and re-evaluate what's important. Alter your mindset to acknowledge that you cannot take on the weight of the world. Ease your stress by taking as much time to enjoy life as you do to take care of business. Your numbers are 9, 13, 17, 25, 27, 31, 46.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): Your "jump to it and do it" attitude will help as long as you don't expect anyone to keep up with you. Offering to do extra will put you in a good position when it comes to advancement. Romance is highlighted. **★★★**

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Keep your plans out in the open. You don't want anyone to accuse you of withholding information. Ask questions if someone is looking for a handout or offering a phony sales pitch. Keep anyone using emotional manipulation at arm's length. **★★★**

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): You are likely to face delusional situations. Listen carefully and ask questions if you think you are being misled. Offer precise and honest answers. A stalemate will develop if you aren't willing to compromise. Emotions will be difficult to control. **★★**

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Don't make decisions based on hearsay. Go directly to the source and ask questions to find out exactly what's going on. Investigate

something you would like to pursue before you sign up to do so. Preparation will save you emotionally and financially. **★★★**

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Take action and let everyone see how efficient you are. Your charm and diplomatic way of dealing with controversy will win you points at home and at work. Offer physical and intellectual help, but be cautious about promising financial assistance. **★★★★**

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Prepare to face opposition. Listen, observe and question until you feel confident you have enough information to make an intelligent decision. Don't let someone using relentless emotional blackmail coerce you into making a premature or poor choice. **★★**

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't waste time. You can make monumental changes that will help you understand and circumvent setbacks. By doing the right thing at the right time, you will overcome any confusion you face along the way. Travel and romance are highlighted. **★★★★★**

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can wheel and deal when it comes to investments, but when it comes to affairs of the heart, you are best to guard against emotional manipulation. A spiritual or philosophical lifestyle change will bring positive results. **★★★**

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Play the game of life to win. Your enthusiastic, high-energy approach will capture interest personally and professionally, but don't make claims that you won't be able to manufacture.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stick close to home and avoid making changes that can disrupt an important relationship. Keep life simple and your expenditures moderate. A challenge may tempt you, but caution should be taken in order to avoid a physical mishap. **★★**

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your determination coupled with unique ideas and a good dose of imagination will help you reach your goal. Emotional situations will be enhanced if you make plans to do something special with your family or your lover. Home improvements will pay off. **★★★★★**

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): You may be forced to take action when it comes to misinformation being spread. An emotional situation will be riddled with deception. Protect your heart as well as your assets. Someone will try to coerce you into doing something you shouldn't do. **★★**

**Birthday Baby:** You are a participant and a contributor. You are philosophical and mindful.

Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](http://twitter/facebook/linkedin).

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD  
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Focus on romantic relationships, home improvements and any youngsters in your life. **★★**

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Stick close to home and avoid making changes that can disrupt an important relationship. Keep life simple and your expenditures moderate. A challenge may tempt you, but caution should be taken in order to avoid a physical mishap. **★★**

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your determination coupled with unique ideas and a good dose of imagination will help you reach your goal. Emotional situations will be enhanced if you make plans to do something special with your family or your lover. Home improvements will pay off. **★★★★★**

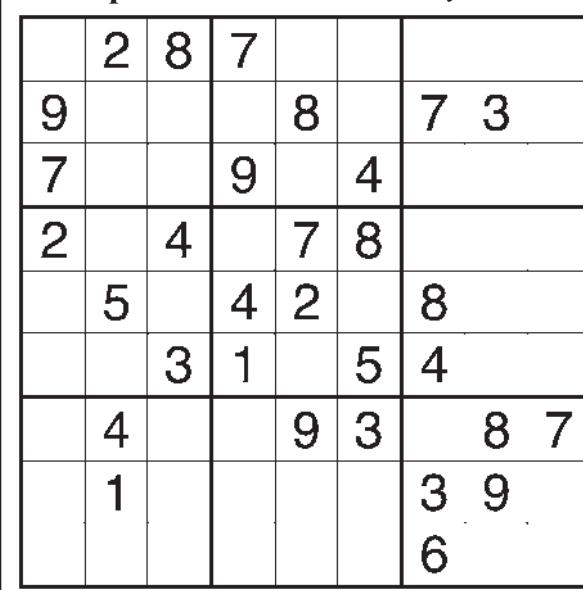
**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): You may be forced to take action when it comes to misinformation being spread. An emotional situation will be riddled with deception. Protect your heart as well as your assets. Someone will try to coerce you into doing something you shouldn't do. **★★**

**Birthday Baby:** You are a participant and a contributor. You are philosophical and mindful. Eugenia's website—[eugenialast.com](http://eugenialast.com), Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on [twitter/facebook/linkedin](http://twitter/facebook/linkedin).

## SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

5	3	2	4	1	7	9	6	8
6	9	7	8	3	5	1	2	4
8	4	1	2	9	6	3	5	7
1	5	3	6	7	9	4	8	2
4	7	8	1	5	2	6	9	3
9	2	6	3	8	4	7	1	5
3	6	9	5	4	8	2	7	1
7	8	4	9	2	1	5	3	6
2	1	5	7	6	3	8	4	9

Difficulty Level ★★★

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEM LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters will be the Wonderword.

BUBBA WATSON WINS THE 2014 MASTERS Solution: 10 letters

E	S	D	R	A	Y	D	I	S	T	A	N	C
E	E	D	P	I	N	K	E	R	Y	A	L	P
T	L	L	N	O	T	R	A	T	S	A	S	U
A	O	R	C	U	T	Q	J	O	F	S	Y	G
E	H	E	I	O	A	U	I	S	O	Ⓐ	R	T
F	S	Y	T	T	C	R	E	I	B	○	E	Y
E	L	E	R	K	S	L	C	K	R	N	○	E
D	A	O	E	R	D	E	L	A	O	K	I	N
S	N	T	G	R	E	A	L	I	M	D	Y	S
T	O	M	B	A	T	G	P	A	R	P	H	D
R	I	O	E	W	B	M	E	I	R	O	A	R
O	T	L	L	O	A	B	B	T	O	T	I	V
K	O	L	A	H	C	O	U	R	S	E	L	V
E	M	Y	C	S	A	N	D	B	M	O	D	L
S	E	I	G	N	A	T	S	U	G	U	R	E

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 Angie, Augusta, Birdie, Boogy, Boys, Bubba, Caddie, Caleb, Campaign, Champion, Charity, Classic, Course, Defeat, Distance, Driver, Emotional, Field, Gerry, Golf, Greens, Holes, Jacket, Lester, Model, Molly, Par, PGA, Pink, Player, Putt, Quirky, Role, Rounds, Second, Shot, Show, Star, Strokes, Talk, Ted Scott, Tee, Title, Tour, Trees, Victory, Yards  
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Close Date: June 27, 2014

Position: (1) Supervisor

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Qualification: High school graduate or vocational (5) yrs experience

Link: <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/41-1011.00>

Position: (1) Office Manager

Salary: \$1,250 per month

Qualification: AA degree/college graduate (5) yrs experience

Link: <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/43-1011.00>

Position: (1) Mechanic

Salary: \$5.55 to \$6.05 per hour

Qualification: High school graduate or vocational (3) yrs experience

Link: <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/49-3052.00>

Position: (1) Custodial Worker

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Link: <http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/37-2011.00>

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# Murray soaks it in as Wimbledon welcomes him back



**LONDON** (AP)—It had been, famously, more than 75 years since a British man arrived at Wimbledon as the defending champion.

So Andy Murray took a moment—and, really, only a moment—to take in the sights and sounds Monday at Centre Court as nearly 15,000 spectators, including Shaquille O'Neal up in the Royal Box, rose to greet him with a raucous standing ovation.

Murray's parents and grandparents were present. So, of course, was his much-discussed recent choice as coach, Amelie Mauresmo. The other player, 105th-ranked David Goffin of Belgium, was little more than a bystander for all of the proceedings, which wrapped up a little more than two hours after they began with a 6-1, 6-4, 7-5 victory for Murray.

"I was pretty nervous and stuff before the match. Then when you're walking to the court - I have a lot of memories obviously from last year. To come to the court and get that reception, it was very nice," said Murray, who last year became the first man from Britain since Fred Perry in 1936 to win the nation's prestigious tennis tournament.

That title for Perry was his third in a row at the All England Club, but he did not try for another one in 1937.

Murray heeded advice from Mauresmo, the 2006 women's champion at Wimbledon, who told him to soak in



Andy Murray of Britain signs autographs after his first round match against David Goffin of Belgium at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships in Wimbledon, London, Monday, June 23, 2014. AP

everything while walking out to play because, as he put it, "You never know if you'll get the chance to do it again."

He responded to the crowd's reaction with a quick wave and a glance around the arena.

"Enjoyed it for the walk to the chair,"

Murray said. "Then when I sat down, it was time to get on with business."

Certainly took care of that. He was crisp and clean, finishing with only 10 unforced errors and saving the only two break points he faced. He pounded serves at up to 131 mph (211 kph) and

returned Goffin's not-quite-as-fast offerings with ease.

All the while, the fans roared for his winners and groaned as a group when their man lost points, no matter how or what significance. They gasped when Murray's leg buckled

## Lind homers as Blue Jays beat Yankees 8-3



**TORONTO** (A P) —

Adam Lind hit a three-run home run in his return to the starting lineup, rookie Marcus Stroman won for the first time in three starts and the Toronto Blue Jays beat New York 8-3 on Monday night, handing the Yankees their third straight loss.

Lind drove in four runs and Diner Navarro had two RBIs for Toronto. The AL East-leading Blue Jays scored as many runs in this game against New York as they managed over three games while being swept at Yankee Stadium last week.

Stroman (4-2) allowed one run and three hits in a career-high eight innings. He walked one and matched a career high with seven strikeouts.

New York rookie Chase Whitley (3-1) saw his three-start winning streak snapped, allowing season highs of 11 hits and eight runs over 3 1-3 innings.

### Orioles 6, White Sox 4

In Baltimore, Chris Davis hit a pinch-hit, three-run homer in the ninth inning to lift Baltimore past Chicago.

Davis was excluded from the starting lineup after batting just .130 in his previous 14 starts. Called upon by manager Buck Showalter with runners on first and second and one out in the ninth, Davis launched a 3-2 pitch from Ronald Belisario (3-

4) into the seats in right field.

Davis, who led the majors in home runs and RBIs last year, started the game in the dugout with a .216 batting average and 78 strikeouts in 218 at-bats.

Adam Jones and Caleb Joseph also homered for the Orioles, who trailed 4-2 in the eighth before rallying to hand the White Sox their fifth straight defeat.

Brad Brach (1-0) pitched two hitless innings for Baltimore.

### Marlins 4, Phillies 0

In Philadelphia, Casey McGehee hit a two-run double and Nathan Eovaldi pitched six-hit ball into the seventh inning to lead Miami.

Eovaldi (5-3) went 6 1-3 innings and got 12 of his 19 outs on flyballs. The right-hander hadn't won since May 26 and gave up 11 runs in his previous two starts.

Phillies starter Roberto Hernandez (3-6) allowed two runs and three hits, striking out six in six innings. Hernandez lined a single to right in the third inning for his first career hit after going 0 for 40.

### Pirates 8, Rays 1

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Pedro Alvarez hit a three-run homer to back the pitching of Edinson Volquez as Pittsburgh beat Tampa Bay.

Andrew McCutchen went 3 for 5, drove in two runs and

stole two bases for the Pirates in a homecoming of sorts for the 2013 NL MVP, who grew up in nearby Fort Meade and had never played before at Tropicana Field. He also scored twice in Pittsburgh's first appearance in St. Petersburg since 2003.

Alvarez went deep off Alex Cobb (2-6) during a four-run fourth inning that also featured the first of McCutchen's two RBI singles.

Volquez (5-6) allowed five hits in a season-high eight innings.

James Loney drove in Tampa Bay's only run with a two-out, first-inning single.

### Royals 5, Dodgers 3

In Kansas City, Mo., Jeremy Guthrie pitched into the eighth inning, Jarrod Dyson drove in two runs off Zack Greinke and Kansas City ended a four-game losing streak.

Guthrie (5-6) allowed two runs and seven hits while winning his third straight start. He was buoyed by an offense that had only scored eight runs total during its recent slide.

Dyson, the Royals' No. 9 hitter, went 3 for 3 and stole two bases. Salvador Perez hit a solo home run, and Lorenzo Cain and Alcides Escobar — two of the players acquired by the Royals in the trade that sent Greinke to Milwaukee in December 2010 — drove in a run apiece.

Greg Holland served up a

homer to Adrian Gonzalez in the ninth before earning his 22nd save.

Greinke (9-4) gave up a season-high five runs and 11 hits in 5 2-3 innings.

### Reds 6, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Devin Mesoraco hit a grand slam with two outs in Cincinnati's five-run ninth inning.

Mesoraco went deep for the fourth straight game, driving a 1-0 pitch from Hector Rondon (1-2) into the basket in left-center for his 13th homer. It was Mesoraco's second grand slam of the season and No. 3 of his career.

Billy Hamilton had a tie-breaking RBI single earlier in the inning as Cincinnati won for the sixth time in seven games to move above .500 for the first time this season at 38-37. The winning sequence started when Chris Heisey reached on a pinch-hit single with two outs and no one on base, snapping an 0-for-16 rut.

It was the first homer allowed by Rondon since last Aug. 3.

Jonathan Broxton (3-0) pitched a perfect eighth and Logan Ondrussek got the last three outs.

### Nationals 3, Brewers 0

In Milwaukee, Gio Gonzalez combined with three relievers to hold Milwaukee's potent lineup to three hits, and Adam LaRoche hit a three-run homer to lead Washington.

Gonzalez (4-4) walked four

and struck out five in six innings. It was the left-hander's second start following a month-long stint on the disabled list for left shoulder inflammation.

He outpitched Matt Garza (4-5), who struck out seven in seven innings but allowed LaRoche's homer to straightaway center in the third.

Tyler Clippard struck out the side in the ninth for his first save.

### Cardinals 8, Rockies 0

In Denver, Lance Lynn allowed three hits in eight innings and Matt Adams had two homers and a career-high six RBIs to lead St. Louis.

Lynn (8-5) struck out seven and walked none before being taken out for the ninth after throwing 108 pitches. It's the first time Colorado has been held scoreless at Coors Field since last July.

Adams' big night included a two-run single in the third, a solo shot in the fifth and a three-run homer in the seventh. This was the third multihomer game of his career.

Jhoulys Chacin (1-6) struggled with his control, allowing five runs in six innings.

### Mariners 12, Red Sox 3

In Seattle, Felix Hernandez threw seven strong innings to win for the first time since June 2, Logan Morrison hit two long homers, and Seattle Mariners used a six-run fourth inning to rout Boston.

Seattle won its fourth straight

a bit and he slipped to the fresh turf in the third game. He rose to his feet quickly and won that point, part of racing to a 3-0 lead.

No matter the attention and expectations heaped on him by a nation, Murray handles it quite well, particularly when's on the court. Even when he's away from the action, he's been at ease, pausing less than two hours before Monday's match to oblige a fan's request to pose for a selfie.

"I always say the buildup to the tournament is the hardest part. Once the tournament starts, it's fine," said the third-seeded Murray, whose other Grand Slam title came at the 2012 U.S. Open. "I mean, I say it every year. I don't turn the TV on. I don't watch too much of the tennis. I don't read any of the papers. I don't go online. I just avoid it, concentrate on playing."

The man he beat in last year's final, No. 1-seeded Novak Djokovic, won in similarly easy fashion on Day 1, taking the first 11 games and never facing a break point en route to beating 56th-ranked Andrey Golubev of Kazakhstan 6-0, 6-1, 6-4.

"A great start," said Djokovic, the 2011 champion.

All in all, it was a relatively quiet start to a tournament that a year ago was as tumultuous as ever, including exits by the end of the second round for past champions Roger Federer, Rafael Nadal and Maria Sharapova. That trio, along with five-time champion and No. 1-seeded Serena Williams, play their opening matches Tuesday.

after a weekend sweep in Kansas City. The Mariners finally provided Hernandez (9-2) the run support lacking in his last three starts and battered right-hander John Lackey (8-5) in his shortest outing since September 2011.

Seattle had scored one run total while Hernandez was on the mound in his previous three starts. After falling behind early, Seattle blew the game open in the fourth, capped by Endy Chavez's bases-loaded triple off Lackey. Seattle sent 10 batters to the plate and scored three times with two outs.

### Padres 6, Giants 0

In San Francisco, Cuban defector Odrisamer Despaigne pitched seven innings in his major league debut to lead San Diego.

Tommy Medica hit a two-run double off Matt Cain (1-6) after the umpires took away a three-run home run by Yasmani Grandal on a replay review to give the crafty Despaigne (1-0) the support he needed to get the win.

Despaigne had a 6.03 ERA in seven minor league starts in his first season as a professional after defecting from Cuba last summer. But he kept the Giants off-balance all game by changing his arm angle and mixing in big, slow curveballs with his harder pitches.

Despaigne allowed four hits and no walks in place of the injured Andrew Cashner and handed the Giants their 10th loss in 13 games.

# The curse of the NBA big man always affects drafts



**MIAMI** (AP)—Greg Oden has had years to think about the plight of his knees, and still has no good answers.

The No. 1 pick in the 2007 NBA draft is a poster child for big man bad luck, an epidemic that's been sweeping the league for years. The latest victim seems to be Joel Embiid, a 7-footer expected to be the No. 1 pick in Thursday's draft before a recently suffered stress fracture in his right foot almost certainly robbed the former Kansas star of that chance.

"My body did what it wanted," Oden said. "It didn't do what I wanted."

Oden a few weeks ago recalled the frustration of his situation. But he and Embiid are hardly alone. For every huge success story like the ones from Shaquille O'Neal, David Robinson, Tim Duncan and Hakeem Olajuwon, there's been the cautionary tales of Sam Bowie, Pervis Ellison, Michael Olowokandi, Kwame Brown and Oden.

Big men, big risks and often, big problems.

NBA teams remain undeterred. That's good news for Embiid—after all, despite Oden's litany of problems, he's currently on an NBA roster.

Still, Embiid might lose some big money Thursday.

If he was the No. 1 pick, he would have been guaranteed about \$14.4 million for his first three years in the NBA. If he slides to just No. 10, his rookie-deal salary for those first three years would be about \$8.1 million less.

"Joel will be unable to partici-

pate in any additional workouts, and will not attend the draft in New York," agent Arn Tellem said.

Embiid already had some health questions, mostly regarding a balky back that affected him toward the end of his final college season with Kansas. Now he's had foot surgery and could be out for up to six months, likely ending his rookie season before it starts.

That doesn't make Embiid unique.

His situation could turn out to be similar to what former Kentucky star Nerlens Noel faced this past season. Noel was recovering from a torn knee ligament, an injury that ended his college career and quite probably cost him a chance to be the No. 1 pick. Despite the injury, he was still drafted No. 6 by New Orleans and traded to the Philadelphia 76ers.

And with the Philadelphia currently holding seven picks in this draft, it's easy to wonder if the 76ers would consider grabbing Embiid and giving him a year to recover in the same manner that they did with Noel.

"I feel for him," Noel told reporters in Kentucky after Embiid's injury was announced. "He's had all that pressure and all that expectation. He's just got to stay positive and keep working on himself ... do what he can do, because everything else is out of his control."

There's no shortage of big men who have buckled under the weight of big expectations.

Ellison was the No. 1 pick in 1989, got injured as a rookie and basically had only one



AP

In this Jan. 29, 2014 file photo, Kansas center Joel Embiid (21) works around Iowa State forward Georges Niang, back, during the first half of an NCAA college basketball game in Lawrence, Kan. Embiid's hope of being the No. 1 pick in the 2014 NBA Draft is almost certainly gone now because of his foot injury.

great season as a pro. Kent Benson, the No. 1 pick in 1977, averaged 9.1 points per game in his career. Hasheem Thabeet was the No. 2 pick in 2009; he's averaged 2.2 points per game since. Olowokandi was an enormous bust at No. 1, slogging through an injury-plagued career and never averaging more than 12.3 points in a season.

And Michael Jordan will for-

ever be tied to perhaps the two biggest big-man draft blunders: He was picked one spot after Sam Bowie went at No. 2 to Portland in 1984, and Jordan wound up taking Brown first overall in 2001. For as much as Bowie's career was derailed by injuries—and for as much as he was a punch line for years—he still scored 1,529 more NBA points than Brown did, despite playing 96 fewer games.

## Tim Duncan coming back for Spurs in 2014-15

Tim Duncan could have easily gone out on top, with his fifth NBA championship trophy under his arm and his health intact just a few months after his 38th birthday.

There's just no way. Duncan is having too much fun with his San Antonio Spurs coaches and teammates, and he's playing too well to call it quits now.

Duncan has decided to exercise the option on his contract for 2014-15 and will return next season, the team announced Monday. Since he was drafted No. 1 overall in 1997, Duncan leads all NBA players in wins and has won two MVP awards and three NBA Finals MVPs.

As the Spurs beat the two-time defending champion Miami Heat in the NBA Finals earlier this month, Duncan was asked several times about his future, as he has been for the last five or six years. He was noncommittal, saying he would take some time after the season ended to mull his decision.

But after Game 5, most of the Spurs said they expected

the group to return and now Duncan has reached his decision, which was first reported by Yahoo! Sports. He will make about \$10.3 million next season in the final year of a two-year agreement that was drawn up specifically to allow the Spurs the financial flexibility to surround Duncan with top-shelf talent.

"He feels a responsibility to his teammates," Spurs coach Gregg Popovich said after the team won the championship. "He enjoys them. He wants to hang around as long as he can while he's useful and while he's having an impact on the game. He takes care of his body. He works out all summer long with a variety of different things, boxing, swimming. He's very careful about what he puts in his body, so he does everything he can to maintain a level of play."

"At some point," Popovich added, "that will stop."

But not this year. When Duncan looked around at the Spurs, he saw every reason to come back and try to do

just about the only thing the Spurs haven't done during his 17 years there —win back-to-back titles.

In Popovich he has perhaps the best coach in the game, one who has established a culture of teamwork, success and stability that is unparalleled in the league. In Tony Parker and Manu Ginobili, he has two trusted teammates who have been by his side for years, have sacrificed money, fame and statistics right along with him to build the Spurs organization into the envy of the NBA.

And in Finals MVP Kawhi Leonard, Duncan has a young, fresh-faced star on the rise to carry more of the load as the Big Three get older.

"With the front office putting the teams together that we've had and us playing smaller roles and our roles changing over the years, and us happy to accept the roles that we're in, I feel we can do it until we feel we don't want to do it anymore," Duncan said two weeks ago.

Perhaps as important as any-

thing, Duncan is still one of the best big men in the league. He was named first team All-NBA in 2012-13 as he helped the Spurs to the finals, where they lost to the Heat in a heart-breaking seven-game series.

This season, Duncan averaged 15.1 points, 9.7 rebounds and 1.9 blocks in just 29.2 minutes per game, playing in a system expertly devised by Popovich to limit the wear and tear on his body. He shot almost 57 percent in the finals and dismantled Heat star Chris Bosh, who grew up with a Duncan poster on his bedroom wall.

"We've been on our last run for the last five or six years from how everyone wants to put it," Duncan said. "We show up every year, and we try to put together the best teams and the best runs possible because what people say doesn't matter to us."

"As I said, as long as we feel we're being effective, we're going to stay out here and we're going to play. We feel like we can be effective, and we have been."

(AP)

## Agent: Anthony loves NY, wants to explore options

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Carmelo Anthony "loves being a Knick" but is headed for free agency because he wants to explore his options, his agent said.

Anthony had a Monday deadline to terminate the final year of his contract and had already informed the team he would do so. He will be able to negotiate with teams starting July 1.

"Carmelo loves being a Knick, he loves the city and the fans," Leon Rose said. "At this stage of his career he just wants to explore his options."

The best one financially would be to return to New York, which can offer him an extra year and around \$25 million more than any team under NBA rules.

But Anthony has said his priority at this stage of his career is to contend for championships, and the Knicks are coming off a 37-45 season and have little ability to upgrade the roster this summer because of salary cap rules.

Teams such as Chicago, Houston, Dallas and Miami have all been mentioned as teams that could be interested in the All-Star forward, and all are playoff teams with established stars already on the roster.

Anthony would have earned \$23.3 million next season had he chosen to play out the final year of his deal. Knicks presi-

dent Phil Jackson had told Anthony it may be a good idea to consider that, but Anthony had repeatedly said his preference was to become a free agent this summer, and he reiterated that to Jackson, general manager Steve Mills and new coach Derek Fisher during a recent meeting in Los Angeles.

Anthony averaged 27.4 points and 8.1 rebounds last season. Both Jackson and Fisher have said they hope the two-time Olympic gold medalist stays, but will be prepared if he doesn't.

"I'm not losing sleep over it, but I'm definitely concerned about the idea of a guy going into free agency. It only takes one bidder out there that has the ability and can ruin your hopes and your chances," Jackson said recently.

"We will survive it. That's what I've said and we'll go forward. But this is a guy we recognize his talent and his skill is the kind of skill and talent that gets you through

playoff games where things get sticky, grind out and basketball becomes a force game and suddenly you need to have a player who has the capabilities of scoring with someone hanging on them in a situation that's critical.

He's one of those players, one of the few players who can do that.

**NEYMAR**

From Page 28

already eliminated teams, a victory providing a little balm on the disappointing defense of its title.

With free-flowing games and buckets full of goals the rule in this outstanding tournament, it took until the final minutes of the Group A games for Brazil to make sure it advanced as group leader on goal difference over Mexico.

"We are progressing match after match and that's important," Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari said.

Both finished with seven points, with Croatia eliminated with three points, while Cameroon finished with three losses. Brazil finished first because it had a better goal differential than Mexico, plus 5 to plus 3.

The Netherlands was the first perfect team to advance, finishing ahead of Chile in Group

B. Spain had three points with Monday's win, and Australia had three losses.

Beyond the statistics, it again was Neymar who fully lived up to expectations of the 200 million football fans in Brazil with flair and lethal finishing, making the difference with first-half strikes against an African opponent that fought hard for one half before succumbing.

Neymar used an array of spin moves and delicate touches to

get by players, delighting the crowd in Brasilia—including Britain's Prince Harry.

"I have the responsibility," said Neymar, and at 22, he is living up to it every single time he takes to the pitch. It seems half the Brazil jerseys from the beaches of Copacabana to gaucho towns in the interior carry his name, and with good reason.

Neymar has four goals from three games to lead the top scorer's standings, edging a group

of five players with three goals.

Much like the opener, Neymar carried the weight for his team, scoring the first with a subtle inside-foot flick while adding a second with a darting run before wrong-footing the Cameroon goalie with a right-foot drive.

The oft-criticized Fred may have kept himself in the starting lineup with a header just after halftime. Substitute Fernandinho closed out the scoring for Brazil.

With everything to play for, Mexico came through with three goals in a 10-minute spurt of excitement late in the game against Croatia.

So often in this tournament, goals deep in the second half have made the difference, and Monday was no exception.

The Dutch scored twice in the last 13 minutes against Chile to finish the group stage with three straight wins. Quite a turnaround for a team thought to be on the wane with aging stars like Arjen Robben.

Yet the Dutch have scored 10 goals in three victories. Now, only the foolhardy would relish the prospect of facing the orange-clad team.

"We wanted to be first in the group. Now we will see what is coming at us," said Robben, who added an assist against Chile to the three goals he scored in earlier games.

Leroy Fer scored a minute after going on as a substitute to get the Netherlands ahead in the 77th minute. Then, when

some other players had already gone down with cramps, Robben launched into another of his trademark sprints across the pitch and passed perfectly to Memphis Depay for the tap-in that put the game away.

While Robben is going strong after hitting his thirties, age caught up with the Spanish stars this tournament, particularly in their 5-1 opening loss to the Netherlands.

They regained a little pride Monday. In a game of goodbyes, David Villa marked his final appearance for Spain with a record 59th goal for the national team.

"It's sad because we would have liked to have spent more time here, but that's how it is," Villa said.

Fernando Torres, who set off Spain's rise by scoring the winner in the 2008 European championship final, also scored. Juan Mata added the third.

Spain also won the 2010 World Cup and repeated as European champs in 2012.

At least Spain avoided finishing last in its group.

Uruguay, the semifinalist of 2010, could be facing elimination on Tuesday, but after Luis Suarez returned from injury and scored both goals against England, there is no counting out the former champion.

Suarez shrugged off any lingering concerns about his surgically repaired left knee and said he was in "perfect shape" to face Italy.

## Shocker Nation gets outright semis berth

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

 Shocker Nation secured the second automatic semis seat in the 2014 DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League, following a 90-84 victory over Olivos Team in the final day of the regular season last Thursday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Shocker Nation finished the round-robin elimination with a 6-2 record, tying Island Manpower for second place in the team standings, but the former won the tiebreak due to the winner-over-the-other rule. Island Manpower was caught in a deadlock for the No. 2 spot when it lost to San Antonio, 90-94, in the final game last Thursday. San Antonio had

earlier notched the first outright semis ticket and went on to sweep the elimination round with its 4-point win over Island Manpower.

With the loss, Island Manpower would have to prevail in its playoff game against defending champion Docomo Pacific last night to advance to the semis. Also set for last night was the playoff match between the Pelicans and TBK Mechanics. Winners of last night's games will join Shocker Nation and San Antonio in the semis round, which will be played tomorrow.

Shocker Nation earned the semis-spot clinching win after a fourth-quarter push against Olivos Team. Down at 57-65 after three periods, Shocker Nation exploded for 33 points in the fourth canto to eliminate Olivos Team (1-8).

John Paul Villanueva and Lester Vertudez teamed up in the fourth-period turnaround, combining for 17 points, while three other Shocker Nation players scored at least two baskets apiece to steal the twin from Olivos Team.

Meanwhile, in the second and last regular season game, San Antonio kept its unbeaten record after leading the match from start to finish with its consistent offense. The league's pennant champion drained at least 20 markers in all four quarters, registering its biggest output in the third (32 points) to turn a single digit advantage, 43-55, to a 12-point lead, entering the final canto.

Island Manpower, which hit no more than 17 points in each of the first two quarters, tried mounting a comeback in the fourth frame, but fell short, as

Emerson Feria and Prince Factor hit timely baskets for San Antonio.

### First Game

**Shocker Nation 90** – Vertudez 19, De Leon 16, Saturno 12, Dela Cruz 12, Cadiang 12, Villanueva 9.

**Olivos Team 84** – Talania 37, Moises 13, Barrios 12, Capalad 6, Tenorio 6, Camacho 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 20-19, 45-39, 57-65, 90-84.

### Second Game

**San Antonio 94** – Arciaga 23, Espinosa 18, Feliciano 14, Factor 13, Feria 10, Dela Rosa 9, De Guzman 7.

**Island Manpower 90** – Teregeyo 20, Bisana 19, Pangalinan 12, Kaipat 9, Norita 8, Tabora 4, Lizama 3.

**Scoring by quarters:** 22-18, 42-35, 74-62, 94-90.

## BEST SUNSHINE INTERNATIONAL



### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Best Sunshine would like to establish a pool of applicants for the following positions:

1. Executive Assistant
2. Administrative Assistant
3. Accountant

Fluency in the official languages is a plus. Salary is \$7.50/hour or above which is commensurate with experience and education. For job description, application form and more information, please email: [hr@bestsunshineint.com](mailto:hr@bestsunshineint.com). Resume will be required with submission of application. Background check will be required before employment.

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Ghilissow for your interest in Best Sunshine!

[www.bestsunshineint.com](http://www.bestsunshineint.com)

**BEST SUNSHINE**  
International

# 21st Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run 3K Winners

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



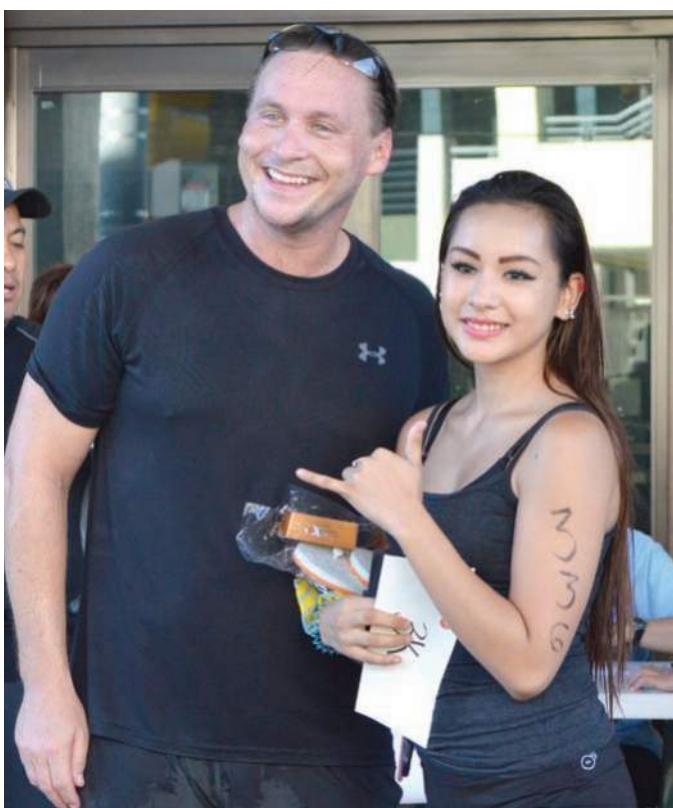
Girls 13 to 19 top placer Angel Marie Tan poses with general manager Bruce Lorange, while event host Ben Babauta announces the name of the next winner.



Men's 31 to 40 top finisher Ferdie Arago shows his in-kind prize.



Men's 21 to 30 champion Edwin Correa is all smiles after getting his prize.



Women's 21 to 30 top placer Christina Tudela poses for a photo with prize presenter and DFS general manager Bruce Lorange.



DFS general manager Bruce Lorange, left, congratulates Coume Kaga, top finisher in the girls U12's 3K race in last Saturday's 21st Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run.



Women's 51 to 60 first finisher Mihoko Sakano and DFS general manager Bruce Lorange smile for the camera.



Men's 41 to 50 champion Ariel Lansangan joins DFS general manager Bruce Lorange for a photo.



Boys U12 winner A.G. Kaipo Dikito shows his prize.

## WILD BILL'S

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Two more matches were played in the final day of competition in the M-League with Paire FC defeating Matansa FC, 5-1, and Sun Palace blanking the CNMI Women's National Team in the Division

2 game, 4-0.

Four different players scored for Paire FC with Steve McKagan, Mason Fruit, and Josh Nicholas finding the back of the net in the first half and Jake Lee drilling the last goal in the final frame. Paire was earlier awarded a goal off Matansa's booboos.

Paire finished the season at fifth place with its 8-3-10 mark. It notched 31 goals and gave up 36. Matansa finished last and will be demoted to Division 2 next season, as it dropped all its 21 matches, making only 17 goals, while allowing 104.

The four other teams—Inter Godfather's (13-2-6), KFAS

(11-5-5), MP United (7-1-13), and Kanoa FC (4-1-16)—will stay in Division 1 and will be joined by Division 2 champion the Thundercats. The Thundercats outclassed Shirley's FC with the former having a 13-4-4 slate against the latter's 13-1-7.

Though it lost the top spot

to the Thundercats, Shirley's FC had the most goals scored in the division with 63 against the 58 of the former. The Thundercats gave up the least goals with 26, 10 less than Shirley FC's.

Sun Palace, with its shutout win over the CNMI Women's National Team, placed third

(10-3-8). The four goals Hoin Ryu bagged in the last match brought Sun Palace's total to 44, one more than the goals it allowed this season. The CNMI Women's National Team had the least goals in the group with 27 and allowed the most goals (87), finishing the season with a 2-0-19 record.

Murray soaks it in as Wimbledon welcomes him back

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# Saipan Tribune Sports



The curse of the NBA big man always affects drafts

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28 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 2014

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Wild Bill's reigns supreme in M-League

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**W**ild Bill's topped Division 1 of the M-League after finishing the fall and spring seasons with an undefeated record.



Wild Bill's completed the 21 games with a 17-4-0 win-draw-loss mark to finish ahead of Tan Holdings FC, Inter Godfather's, Korean Football Association on Saipan, Paire FC, MP United FC, Kanoa FC, and Matansa FC. The newly crowned champion capped its perfect season with a 7-1 demolition of KFAS last June 15.

Tanapon Unsaa led Wild Bill's strong finish, scoring five goals, while Jack Thoensaket and Brian Anderson drilled one goal apiece. Unsaa made a hat-trick right in the first half of the match, getting his first in the 24th and the second two minutes later. The youth striker registered his third one four minutes before the first half wrapped up. Thoensaket then opened Wild Bill's scoring in the 52nd minute, while Unsaa

earned his fourth goal in the 68th minute. Three minutes later, it was Anderson's turn to light up the board, while Unsaa closed out for Wild Bill's with a goal in the 80th. KFAS avoided a shutout when it drew a goal from Yeong Gil Kim in the 87th minute.

With its seven goals in the last game of the season, Wild Bill's placed second in the most goals scored behind Tan Holdings, as the former collected 68 against the latter's 79. Wild Bill's allowed the least goals with 11 and finished the tournament with 55 points, 11 more than the runner-up Tan Holdings FC.

Tan Holdings got a free win (via forfeiture) in its last game of the season the depleted MP United. The runner-up club completed the season with a 14-2-5 slate to earn 44 points.

See WILD BILL'S on Page 27



## Neymar leads Brazil; Mexico also through



By RAF CASERT  
AP SPORTS WRITER

**RIO DE JANEIRO** (AP)—Brazil relied on its star Neymar for two early goals to beat Cameroon 4-1 Monday and reach the World Cup's knockout stage for a South American showdown against Chile, a 2-0 loser to the Netherlands.

Winning Group B with its third straight victory made sure that the Dutch avoided the host so early in the tournament. Instead, the Netherlands will face Mexico, which beat Croatia 3-1 to advance alongside Brazil from Group A.

Spain beat Australia 3-0 in an inconsequential game between

**WORLD CUP 2014 FEVER**

QUESTION: How many cities in Brazil are hosting games in the 2014 FIFA World Cup?  
Which hosted the opening and which will host the final match of the 2014 FIFA World Cup?

MECHANICS: 1 The first 5 persons to give correct answers will get prizes from SSS. 2 Winners are allowed to win only once a week. All age groups are eligible to join. 3 Answers can be sent via Facebook (@Saipan SoccerSchool) or Twitter (@SpnSoccerSchool). 4 Winners will be contacted through Facebook and Twitter. Prizes can be claimed at the SSS office at the JP Centre on Beach Road, from 9am to 10am every Thursday (for Wednesday Issue) and Monday (for Friday Issue).

**WORLD CUP 2014 BRACKET LAYOUT**

**TAKE YOUR PICK:** In addition to its trivia contest, SSS will give prizes to individuals who can guess the teams that will advance to the semifinals and finals of the World Cup 2014. More details to follow.

GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C	GROUP D	GROUP E	GROUP F	GROUP G	GROUP H
BRAZIL CROATIA MEXICO CAMEROON	SPAIN NETHERLANDS CHILE AUSTRALIA	COLOMBIA GREECE CÔTE D'IVOIRE JAPAN	URUGUAY COSTA RICA ENGLAND ITALY	SWITZERLAND ECUADOR FRANCE HONDURAS	ARGENTINA BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA IRAN NIGERIA	GERMANY PORTUGAL GHANA USA	BELGIUM ALGERIA RUSSIA KOREA